ALL ABOUT HISTORY™

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How Napoleon's flawed battle strategy led to victory for Britain

1815 - 2015

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How Magna Carta swept King John from power

THE MURDEROUS WORLD OF

VICTORIAN CRIME

The police, the prisons & the hunt for Jack the Ripper

+
- Dick Turpin
- **Romans vs Huns**
- Spanish Inquisition
- **Life of a cowboy**
- Siege weapons

Nefertiti: God killer

Why was the queen wiped from Egyptian history?

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10 unlikely hero animals

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See just how much humans have used animals over the millennia with a front section celebrating our four-legged friends, starting on page 12

Welcome

There's something about a gruesome murder story that is irresistible to the curious human mind, and especially alluring is one that takes place in a dark alley of Victorian London. This issue we're indulging these morbid fascinations with a feature on Victorian crime, exposing Whitechapel's most-wanted criminals, gory murders and the rise of the Metropolitan Police.

On a lighter note, this issue's front section is dedicated to the history of animals and man. It's hard to believe how much we have relied on our four-legged friends – be it for food, transport, war or entertainment – so on page 18 we've shortlisted ten of the animal world's greatest heroes. We were also lucky enough to see *War Horse* at the New London Theatre – read the review on page 89, and on page 90 find out what inspired author Michael Morpurgo to write this moving World War I novel.

Finally, we're proud to announce we will be sponsoring the Ancient Egypt talk at the Chalke Valley History Festival on 26 June. Turn to page 56 for an exclusive article on Queen Nefertiti that is sure to whet your appetite before the day.

Alicea

Alicea Francis
Deputy Editor

Editor's picks

Battle of Waterloo
We commemorate 200 years since the end of the Napoleonic Wars by investigating Napoleon's battle strategy, and why it led to victory for the British.

Bad King John
Discover the bloody beginnings of the Magna Carta in this feature on England's worst king, complete with a dummy's guide to its clauses.

October Revolution
Read the inside story of Lenin's secret plan to bring Soviet power to Russia in this blow-by-blow account of his bloody revolution.

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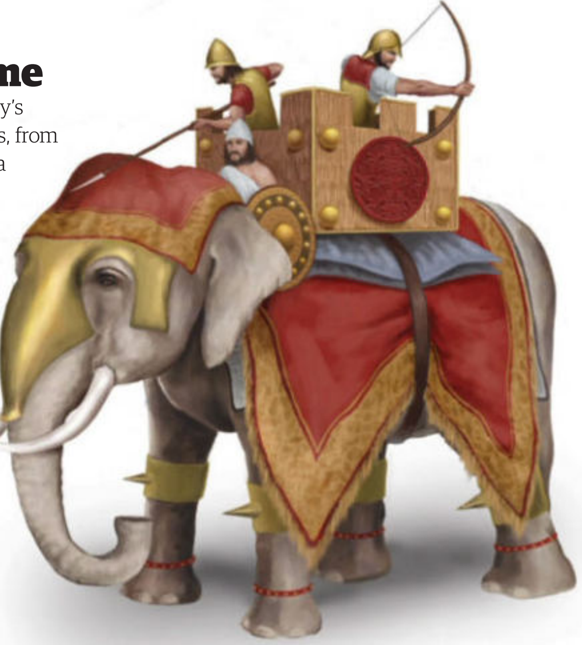

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Inside his secret plan to bring Soviet power to Russia

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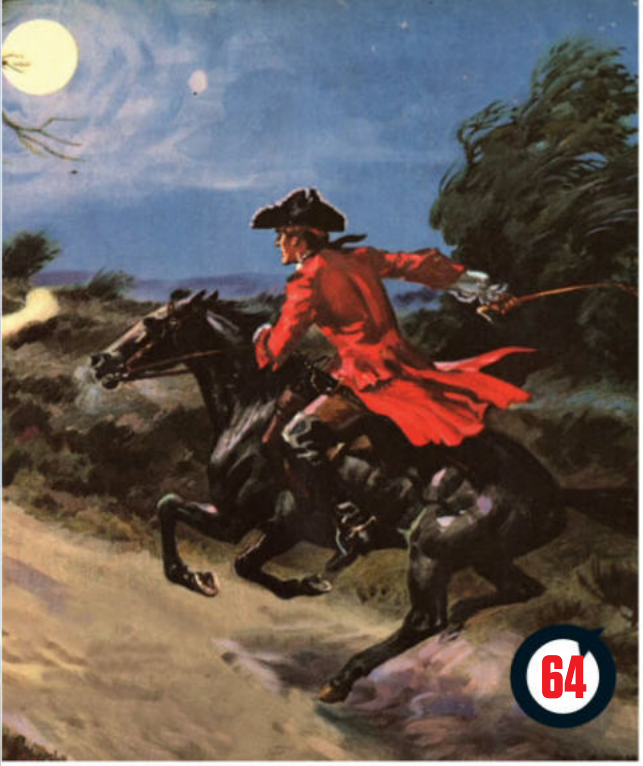

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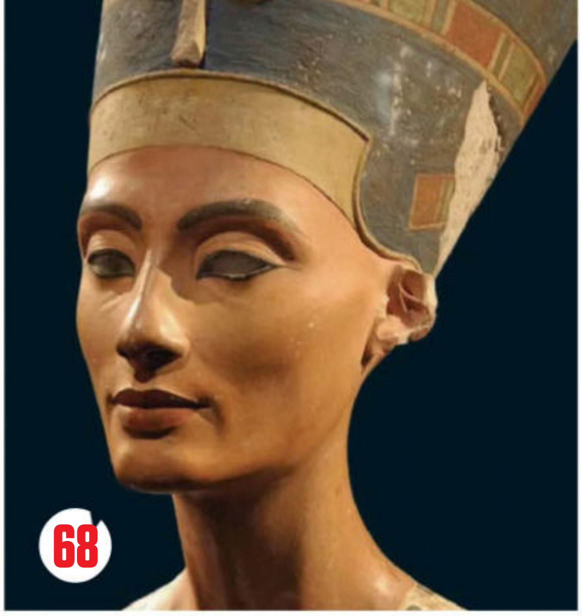

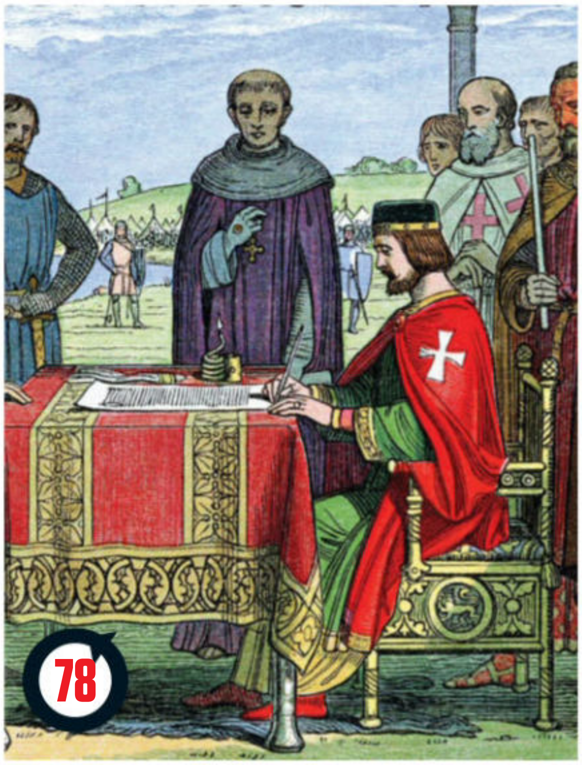

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ALL ABOUT HISTORY
AXIS OF EVIL
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VICTORIAN CRIME

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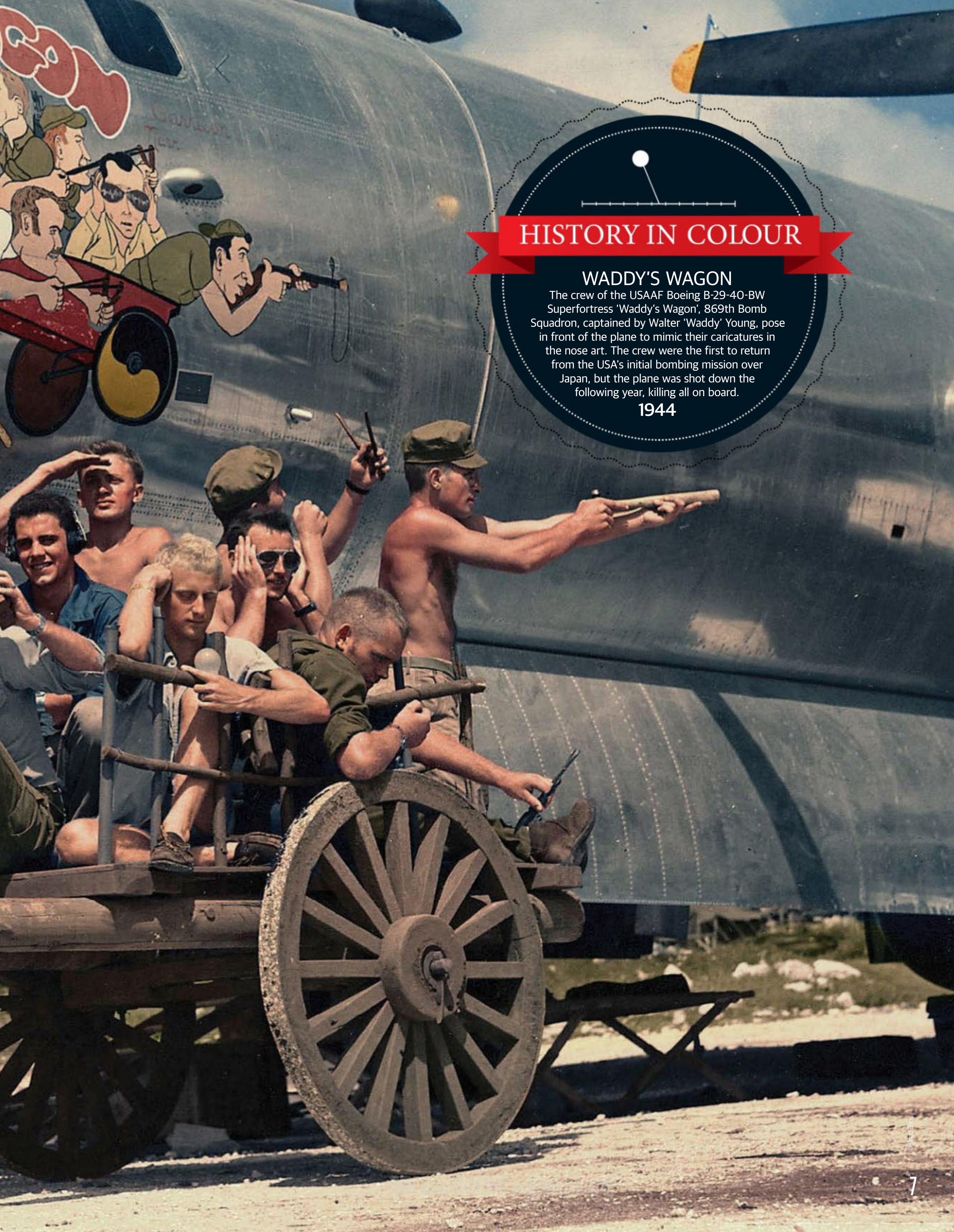


HISTORY IN COLOUR

WADDY'S WAGON

The crew of the USAAF Boeing B-29-40-BW Superfortress 'Waddy's Wagon', 869th Bomb Squadron, captained by Walter 'Waddy' Young, pose in front of the plane to mimic their caricatures in the nose art. The crew were the first to return from the USA's initial bombing mission over Japan, but the plane was shot down the following year, killing all on board.

1944

© Jared Enos

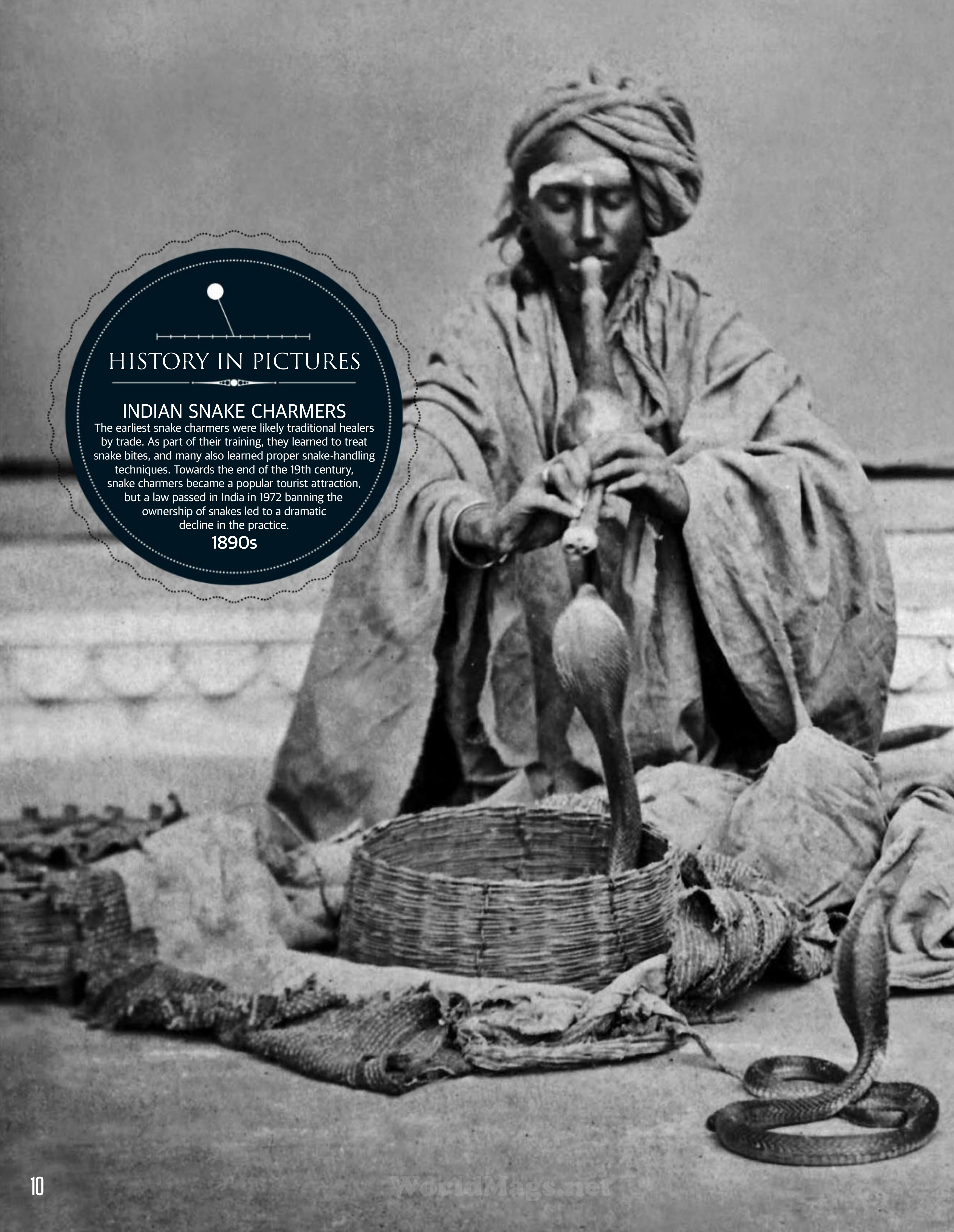
HISTORY IN PICTURES

A PRINCE IS BORN

Prince Charles and Princess Diana with their first son William, pictured in their home at Kensington Palace. This happy family scene soon became a rarity, as their marriage was plagued with scandal and accusations of infidelity. The couple divorced in 1996, and Diana died in a car crash a year later. Prince William remains second in line to the throne, while his own son Prince George is third.

1982

© Rex Features



HISTORY IN PICTURES

INDIAN SNAKE CHARMERS

The earliest snake charmers were likely traditional healers by trade. As part of their training, they learned to treat snake bites, and many also learned proper snake-handling techniques. Towards the end of the 19th century, snake charmers became a popular tourist attraction, but a law passed in India in 1972 banning the ownership of snakes led to a dramatic decline in the practice.

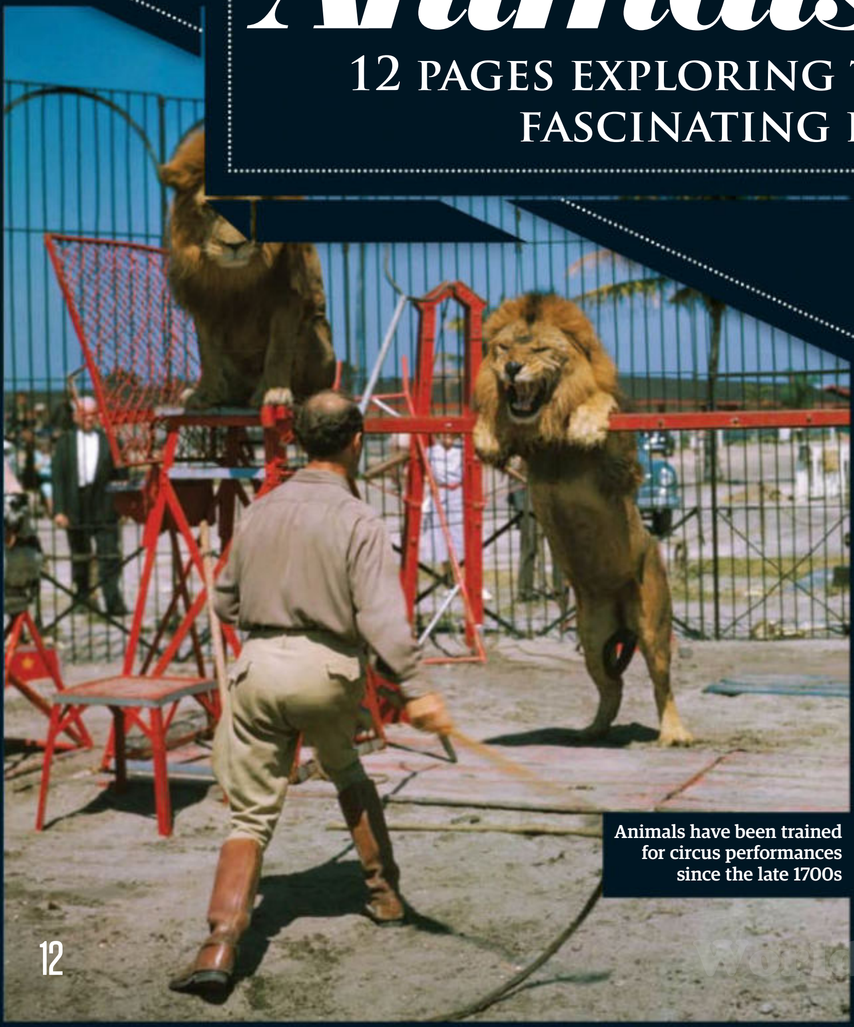
1890s

© Alamy

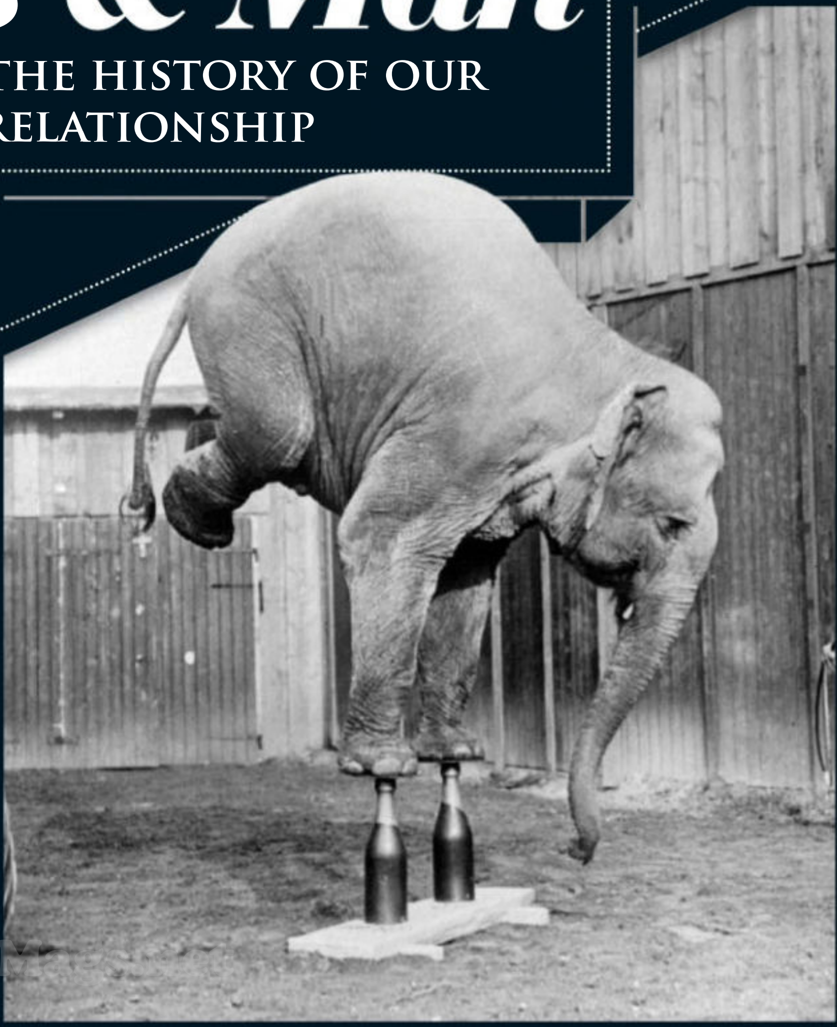
Elizabeth Taylor and 'Pal' on the set of the 1943 film *Lassie Come Home*

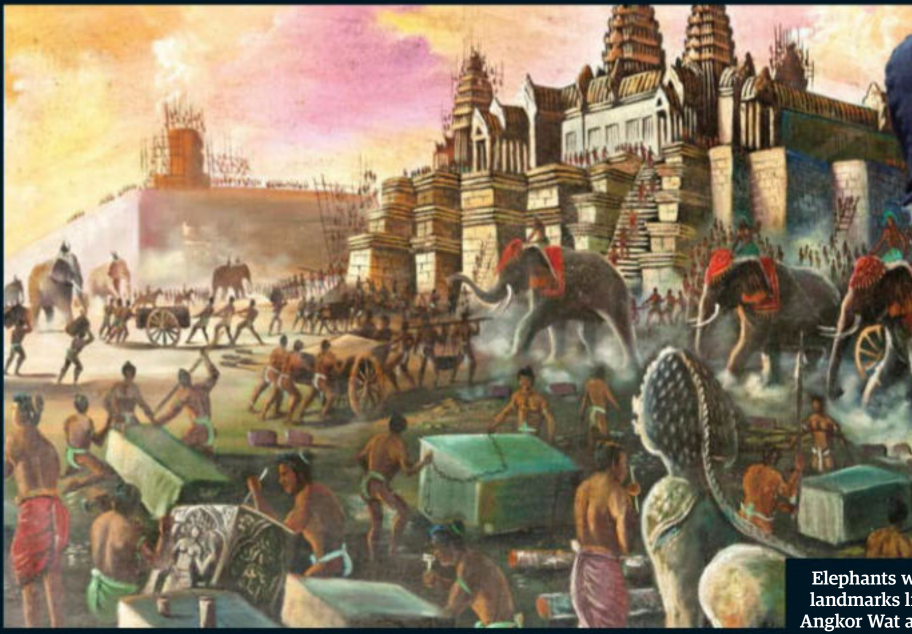
Animals & Man

12 PAGES EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF OUR FASCINATING RELATIONSHIP

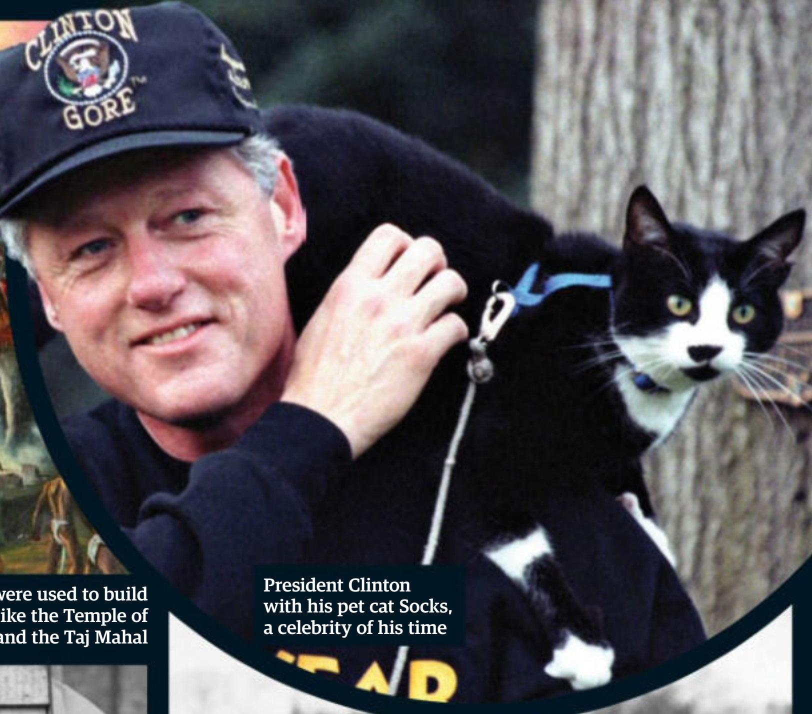


Animals have been trained for circus performances since the late 1700s





Elephants were used to build landmarks like the Temple of Angkor Wat and the Taj Mahal



President Clinton with his pet cat Socks, a celebrity of his time

Chimpanzee tea parties were a form of public entertainment from 1926

Zookeeper Anthony Wingfield rides one of his tame pigs, 1919

Man and horse have fought alongside each other for millenia

Horses were first brought to America by Spanish colonisers

The Inuit rely on animals like caribou for food, clothing, and tent and boat building

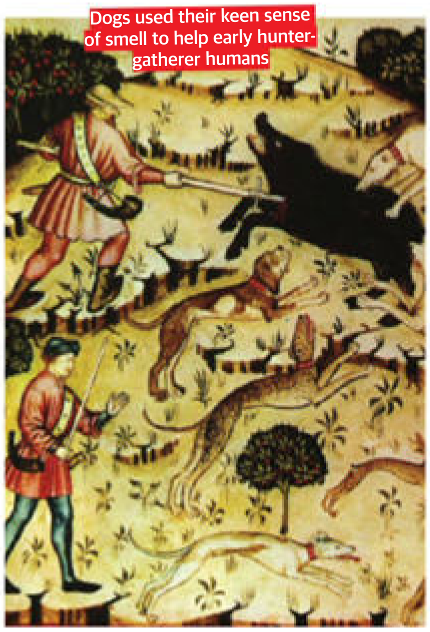
© Alamy, Corbis

Animals & man across history

MAN'S BEST FRIEND

WORLDWIDE 12,000 BCE

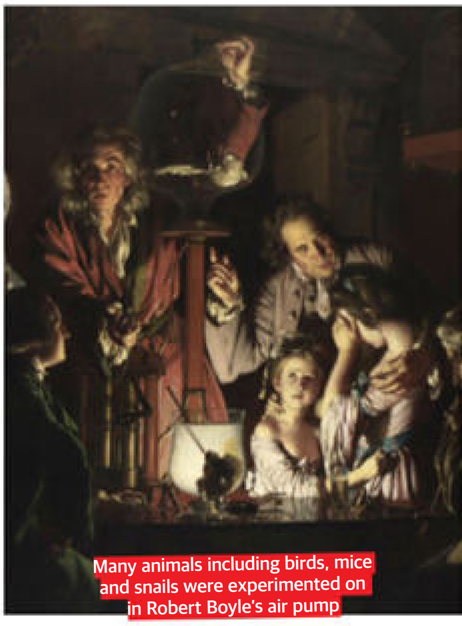
Although the direct ancestor of the dog has not been determined, it is likely that the household dogs we know today have ancestors similar to wolves. Dog-like skulls dating over 30,000 years old have been found in ancient caves from Asia to Europe, leading some to believe that even then, selective breeding of dogs had already begun. It is believed that particular breeds of wolves, the less anxious and aggressive, entered a symbiotic relationship with humans, eventually leading to primate dogs. Dogs have been depicted as pets in ancient Egyptian paintings and Ancient Roman women even kept lapdogs to ease stomachaches.


Dogs used their keen sense of smell to help early hunter-gatherer humans

Testing times

ANCIENT GREECE 4TH/3RD CENTURY BCE

The very first references to animals being used for experiments are found in the writings of Aristotle and Erasistratus around 300 BCE. Animals were used by ancient scientists to study theories such as blood circulation and biological makeup at a time when dissecting humans was forbidden. Animals continued to be used in many famous scientific breakthroughs such as Robert Boyle's belief that humans needed air to live in the 1600s, and Louis Pasteur's experiments concerning germs in 1880. It was around this point that opposition to animal testing began to gain popularity and to this day the subject remains highly controversial.


Many animals including birds, mice and snails were experimented on in Robert Boyle's air pump

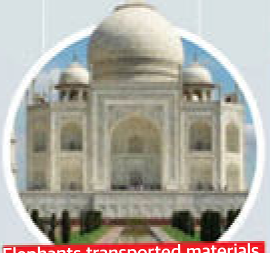
Animals & man timeline

The hunt is on
Ancient humans first use tools to catch, butcher and eat animals, leading to an increase in brain and body size.
2 million years ago

The world goes green
Vegetarianism begins to emerge as a lifestyle in ancient India, North Africa and Greece, mainly for religious and ethical reasons.
600 BCE

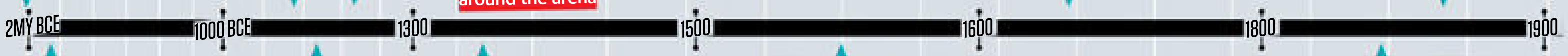
One converted Christian was tied to a wild bull and dragged around the arena

Damnatio ad bestias
Capital punishment where the condemned, such as Christians and slaves, are thrown to wild animals is introduced in ancient Rome. It is also used as a form of entertainment.
200 BCE


Elephants transported materials from all over Asia for the Taj Mahal

An elephantine task
More than 1,000 elephants are used to transport building materials for the construction of the Taj Mahal.
1632-1653

A nose for crime
Although dogs had been used in policing since the Middle Ages, dogs are first used to help police in the Jack the Ripper case.
1869



Early farming
Humans domesticate sheep and goats to be used for farming; it would be 1,000 more years before pigs are domesticated and another 1,000 until cattle is farmed.
8,000 BCE

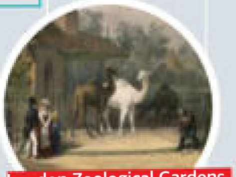
An unforgettable journey
Military commander Hannibal marches an army that includes war elephants over the Pyrenees and Alps.
218 BCE

Rats begin to spread the plague
The fleas living on rats carried on merchant ships cause the spread of the Black Death, claiming an estimated 75-200 million lives.
1346

Bear baiting was not banned in the British Empire until 1835

Rise of animal entertainment
Bear baiting becomes a popular pastime in England. Henry VIII has a pit constructed and Elizabeth I is also a fan of the sport.
1500s

A very modern zoo
London Zoological Gardens opens to the public, after being previously only used for scientific study. However, all the animals are kept inside until 1902.
1857

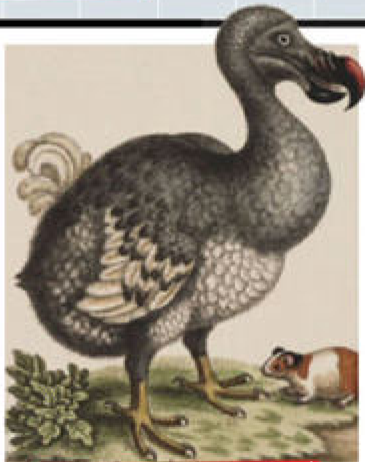

London Zoological Gardens was the first to use the abbreviation 'zoo'

As part of the cult of the goddess Bastet, cats were worshipped and mummified

A purrfect beginning

ASIA 9500 BCE

The notion that cats do things on their own terms also extends to the beginning of their relationship with us - it is believed that cats domesticated themselves and formed a mutually beneficial relationship with humans. A burial site from 9500 BCE shows evidence of cats and humans living side by side, but it was in ancient Egypt where they came into prominence. When Egypt became a province of Rome, cats spread throughout the empire, but it wasn't until the end of the 19th century that they became prized as companions.


For a while the Dodo was believed to be a mythical creature

The dodo goes nono

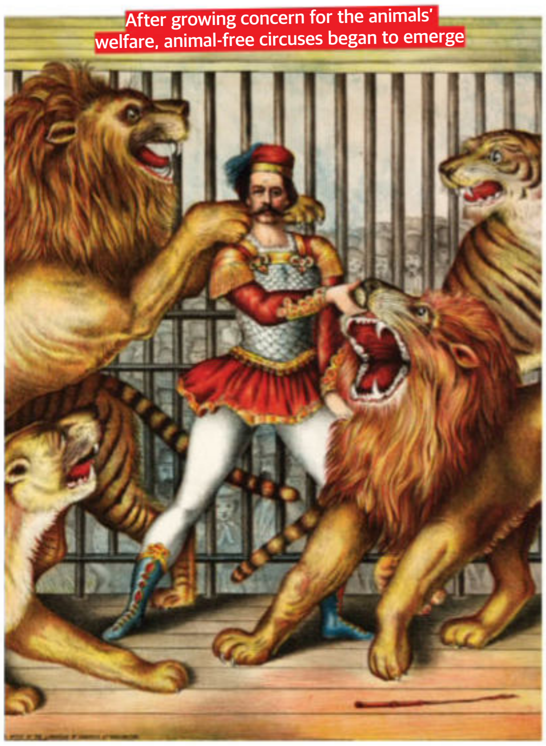
MAURITIUS 1662

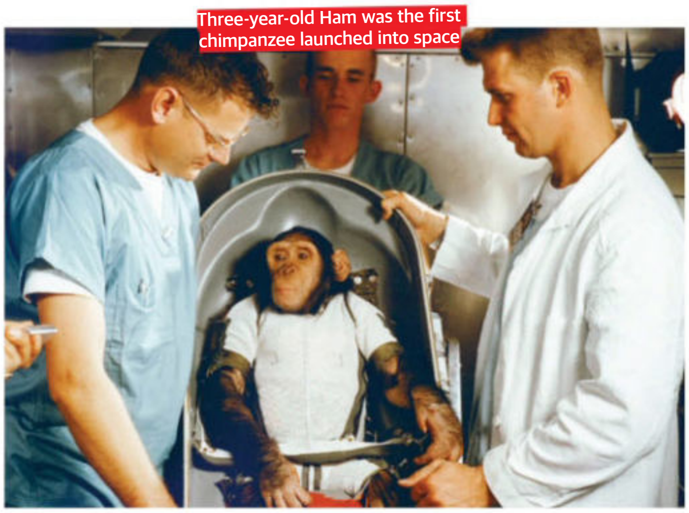
The dodo was first sighted by Dutch sailors in 1598 when they were described as "foules twice as bigge as swans." Living on the island of Mauritius, the isolated bird had no predators and no reason to fear humans. This made them easy prey for hungry sailors, and thanks to the introduction of animals like cats and pigs, in less than 100 years the Dodo was extinct. The extinction brought attention to human involvement in elimination of species, contributing to future efforts to preserve endangered animals.

RISE OF THE CIRCUS

UNITED STATES 1800S

Although animals had been used for entertainment previously, the 1800s saw the emergence of animal acts in circus performances. Originally beginning as travelling menageries, soon equestrian acts, elephant performances and big cat shows gained popularity. Isaac Van Amburgh was one of the first wild animal trainers in history, amazing audiences as he entered a cage full of big cats. Although the performances astonished audiences, the training methods could be brutal, with animals being beaten and starved into submission.


After growing concern for the animals' welfare, animal-free circuses began to emerge


Three-year-old Ham was the first chimpanzee launched into space

The first astronauts

UNITED STATES 1947

Before humans could even dream of traversing space, animals were making the journey. The first animals in space were fruit flies aboard a US V-2 rocket on 20 February 1947. Although the flies returned alive, experiments with monkeys resulted in the death of two-thirds of the animals throughout the 1940s and 50s. The first higher organisms to survive spaceflight were two dogs, Tsygan and Dezik, in 1951.

Lassie's inspiration
Blair the dog becomes the first dog film star when he stars as Rover in *Rescued By Rover*.
1905

A helping paw
The first guide dog schools are set up in Germany to help veterans blinded in combat.
1914

Many breeds are used as guide dogs, but the most popular are Golden Retrievers and Labradors

A mighty roar
Leo the lion becomes MGM's seventh and most famous lion mascot for use in the studio's production logo.
1957

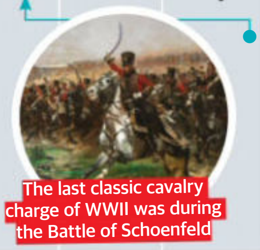
There have been seven different lions in the MGM logo

Whale rights
The documentary *Blackfish* is released and creates controversy over the practice of keeping killer whales captive in marine parks such as Seaworld.
2013

Seaworld have reported a drop in ticket sales since the documentary aired

1950 1970 2000 2015

The last neigh
Horse drawn carriages disappear from the streets of London after the emergence of motor taxis and trams.
1915


The last classic cavalry charge of WWII was during the Battle of Schoenfeld

The final charge
Although it is still used occasionally, horse cavalry begins to be phased out in battles. It is replaced by tank warfare.
1918

The fight for liberation
Animal Liberation is published by Peter Singer. It will be upheld as the founding of the animal liberation movement.
1975

The world's most famous ape
Michael Jackson adopts his famous companion, Bubbles the chimp. The pet will often accompany Jackson during media appearances.
1983

The last hunt
The Hunting Act 2004 bans the hunting of wild animals such as foxes, hares and deers with dogs in England and Wales.
2004

Grumpy Cat's real name is Tardar Sauce

Animals get grumpy
Grumpy Cat, a cat with feline dwarfism known for her grumpy expression, becomes an overnight internet celebrity. Many other cats will follow in kind.
2012

During WWI, the shooting of war pigeons was seen as a criminal act

Military messengers

EUROPE AND UNITED STATES 1914

Pigeons have carried messages and post for humans for more than 5,000 years. Over time the distance they could travel increased from 40 miles to about 200. However, it was during World War I that their role became vitally important to the outcome of battles. Homing pigeons were used to deliver messages so important they could turn the tide of battle. Pigeons were carried on the field, in aeroplanes and even on ships. War pigeons continued to play a role in WWII, but ceased being used in 1957.

Dolly died from a progressive lung disease aged six

Seeing double

SCOTLAND 5 JULY 1996

Also known as 'the world's most famous sheep', Dolly was the first animal to be cloned from an adult somatic cell. Dolly was the result of years of research and she was the only lamb that survived to adulthood from 277 attempts. Although she was not the first animal to be cloned, the success of Dolly's birth led to many other mammals being cloned such as horses, pigs and deers. This has led, in recent years, to a trend in pet cloning, with dog and cat owners eager to replicate their beloved pets.

INSIDE HISTORY

BULLFIGHTING

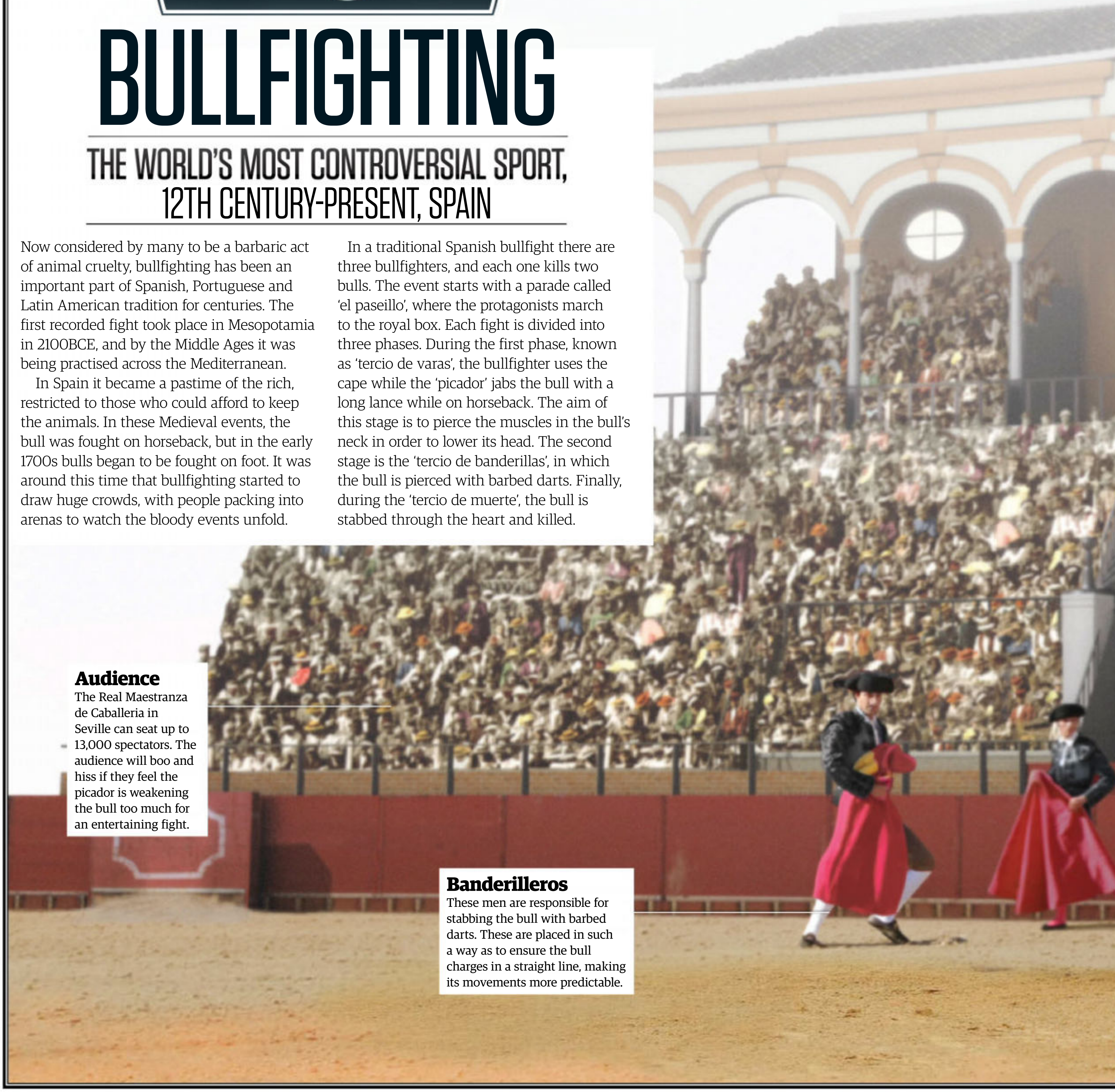
THE WORLD'S MOST CONTROVERSIAL SPORT, 12TH CENTURY-PRESENT, SPAIN

Now considered by many to be a barbaric act of animal cruelty, bullfighting has been an important part of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American tradition for centuries. The first recorded fight took place in Mesopotamia in 2100BCE, and by the Middle Ages it was being practised across the Mediterranean.

In Spain it became a pastime of the rich, restricted to those who could afford to keep the animals. In these Medieval events, the bull was fought on horseback, but in the early 1700s bulls began to be fought on foot. It was around this time that bullfighting started to draw huge crowds, with people packing into arenas to watch the bloody events unfold.

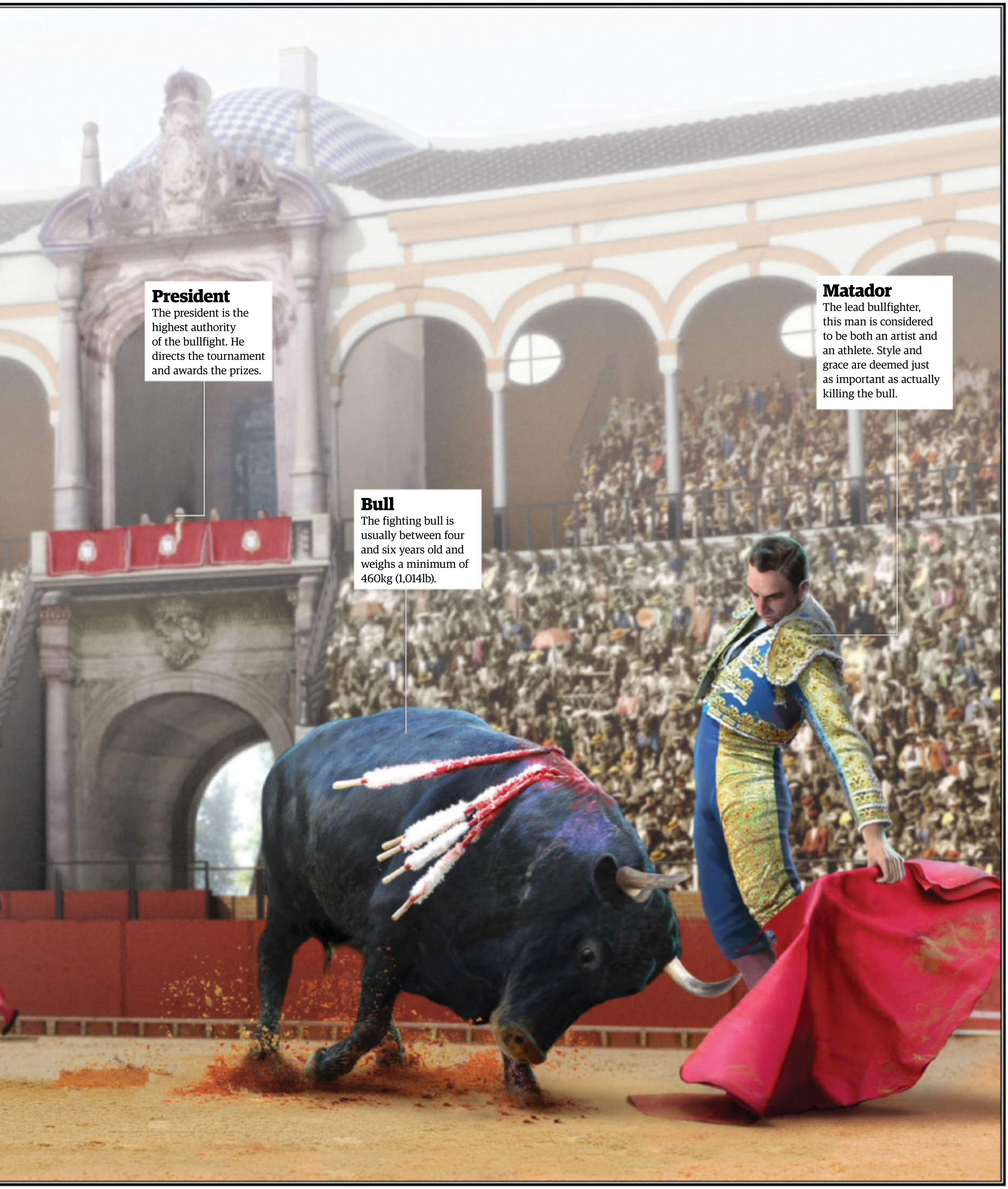
In a traditional Spanish bullfight there are three bullfighters, and each one kills two bulls. The event starts with a parade called 'el paseillo', where the protagonists march to the royal box. Each fight is divided into three phases. During the first phase, known as 'tercio de varas', the bullfighter uses the cape while the 'picador' jabs the bull with a long lance while on horseback. The aim of this stage is to pierce the muscles in the bull's neck in order to lower its head. The second stage is the 'tercio de banderillas', in which the bull is pierced with barbed darts. Finally, during the 'tercio de muerte', the bull is stabbed through the heart and killed.

> “Style and grace are deemed just as important as actually killing the bull”



Audience
The Real Maestranza de Caballeria in Seville can seat up to 13,000 spectators. The audience will boo and hiss if they feel the picador is weakening the bull too much for an entertaining fight.

Banderilleros
These men are responsible for stabbing the bull with barbed darts. These are placed in such a way as to ensure the bull charges in a straight line, making its movements more predictable.



President
The president is the highest authority of the bullfight. He directs the tournament and awards the prizes.

Matador
The lead bullfighter, this man is considered to be both an artist and an athlete. Style and grace are deemed just as important as actually killing the bull.

Bull
The fighting bull is usually between four and six years old and weighs a minimum of 460kg (1,014lb).

© Sol 90 Images

Hall of Fame

ANIMAL HEROES

A parade of (mostly) feathered and furry friends who went far beyond being companions by saving lives or having a significant impact upon our world

SIMON

HONG KONG 1947-49

During the Chinese civil war in 1949, HMS Amethyst came under siege during what became known as the Yangtze Incident. A cat, found at Hong Kong docks and smuggled aboard by a sailor, took on the crucial role of dealing with an on-board rat infestation to protect the ship's food supply. When the Amethyst was hit by a cannon shell, Simon, as he was known, suffered injuries to his back and leg. Despite that, he continued to tackle the rats, keeping morale high among the beleaguered crew. For his exploits, Simon was awarded the Dickin Medal, which honours animals in wartime.

'Able Seacat Simon' as he was known to the ship's crew

> The only cat to receive the Dickin Medal, Simon's story became widely known, earning him the honour of an obituary in *Time* magazine

Pelorus Jack

NEW ZEALAND WATERS
UNKNOWN-1912

A Risso's dolphin known as Pelorus Jack escorted boats sailing from Nelson to French Pass, a narrow stretch of treacherous water between D'Urville Island and the northern tip of South Island. He enjoyed riding bow waves, acting as a kind of pilot by reassuring seafarers they were on a safe course. First spotted in 1888, his celebrity grew and writers such as Mark Twain came to observe him before he passed away, probably of old age.

A law protecting Pelorus Jack was passed in 1904

Washoe learned about 350 words in sign language

WASHOE

USA 1965-2007

Acquired from Africa by the US Air Force, potentially to aid the space programme, Washoe was adopted by doctors Allen and Beatrix Gardner for their research. They raised her at home as if she were a deaf human child. As such, Washoe was the first non-human to learn a human language, that of American Sign Language. She became an important matriarchal figure for others of her kind at the Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute.

Willie was awarded an Animal Lifesaver Award by the local Red Cross

WILLIE

UNITED STATES
2007-PRESENT

Quaker parrots are small birds but good talkers. In 2008, a pet Quaker named Willie sounded the alarm when a two-year-old was choking on food in Denver. Child-minder Megan Howard was elsewhere in the house, but came running when Willie created a fuss, flapping his wings and repeating, "Mama. Baby. Mama. Baby," - even though 'baby' was not a word Willie normally used. Megan quickly cleared the choking hazard, but credited Willie as the real hero.

Ningnong

THAILAND 2000-PRESENT

Tragedy engulfed Phuket when the 2004 tsunami struck, yet there were tales of miraculous survival. One involved then eight-year-old Amber Mason, on holiday from England. On that fateful morning, she was riding on Ningnong's back when the elephant surprised its handler, suddenly bolting up the beach to higher ground. Seconds later, the first wave struck. Ningnong stood firm against the rushing water. Amber's mother, still at breakfast, quickly left the hotel to find her daughter. They were safely back in their first floor room when the second wave struck, yet Amber's mother is certain Amber would have been lost save for Ningnong.

Ningnong back on Phuket beach in 2005

BELKA AND STRELKA

SOVIET UNION UNKNOWN-UNKNOWN

Before Man went into space, animals took the first uncertain steps. Belka and Strelka were the first dogs to orbit the Earth and return alive. Selected from strays found on Moscow's streets - it was thought their tough lives would mean they were more hardy - the pair were shot into space on Sputnik 5 in 1960. Their safe return gave scientists invaluable knowledge to later send humans into orbit. The pair became cosmonaut celebrities at home, their images reproduced on sweet wrappers, postcards and handkerchiefs, while Soviet premier Khrushchev gave one of Strelka's subsequent puppies to US president Kennedy's wife.

Belka's name means 'squirrel' and Strelka's 'arrow'

In addition to other military awards, Sergeant Reckless has been decorated with two Purple Heart medals for being wounded on active service

Back home, Sgt Reckless and Lt Pederson celebrate with cake

SERGEANT RECKLESS

KOREA UNKNOWN-1968

When Lieutenant Eric Pederson spent $250 buying a Mongolian mare at Seoul Race Track in 1952, he wasn't gambling. Pederson, commander of the Recoilless Rifle Platoon, knew his unit needed help transporting its heavy guns and artillery over rugged terrain during the Korean War. 'Reckless' was the unit's call signal, so it became the name of the horse that performed brilliantly in battle. She made countless solo trips to and from ammo delivery sites under fire and also evacuated wounded soldiers. In 1954, she was promoted to sergeant - no other animal has ever been given an officially sanctioned rank in the US military.

Tui Malila met Queen Elizabeth and David Attenborough

Tui Malila

TONGA C1777-1965

A radiated tortoise from Madagascar was presented to the Tongan royal family by Captain James Cooke and lived to the age of at least 188. Named Tui Malila, the creature outlived Napoleon, Hitler and Stalin, and endured two world wars and the nuclear age. Having survived several grass fires, at the time of its death from natural causes it was widely considered to have enjoyed a lifespan longer than any other earthly vertebrate.

> "Animals are such agreeable friends - they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms"
>
> ***George Eliot***

Cher Ami

FRANCE UNKOWN-1919

Thousands of carrier pigeons were enlisted during the two world wars to deliver important messages. The exploits of Cher Ami ('Dear Friend' in French) were particularly heroic. At the Battle of Argonne in October 1918, the US 'Lost Battalion' of Major Whittlesey was trapped behind enemy lines. Under heavy enemy fire, they were also suffering bombardment from their own side. Cher Ami was their last pigeon. Released with vital location information, the bird immediately attracted German gunfire. Shot down, wounded in the breast, leg and eye, Cher Ami nevertheless took flight again to deliver the message that saved 194 soldiers.

Cher Ami's body was stuffed and mounted by the Smithsonian Institution

PICKLES

BRITAIN 1962-67

It was considered a national embarrassment when the World Cup, the original Jules Rimet Trophy, was stolen from a display months before the tournament began in 1966 in England. Fortunately, a black and white mongrel dog named Pickles came to the rescue. Out walking in South London with his owner, David Corbett, Pickles sniffed out a package tightly bound in newspaper from under a bush. Inside it was the World Cup.

Pickles' collar is displayed at the National Football Museum in Manchester

After Pickles found the trophy, his owner David Corbett was wrongly suspected of being the thief and questioned for hours by police

© Alamy; Corbis; Thinkstock

Top 5 facts

DIAN FOSSEY

THE FEARLESS ZOOLOGIST WHO FOUGHT FOR GORILLAS IN THE MIST

01 SHE RISKED EVERYTHING TO GO TO AFRICA

Fossey had a secure job working as director of the Kosair Crippled Children's Hospital occupational therapy department before her trip. However, in order to embark on her first visit to Africa, she had to spend her entire life savings, as well as taking out a hefty bank loan.

DIAN FOSSEY

Nationality: American
Born: 16 January 1932
Died: 26 December 1985

Brief Bio

Known for her pioneering work in studying the endangered gorillas of the Rwandan mountain forest, Fossey was a renowned zoologist. Fossey recorded her experiences with the gorillas in her book *Gorillas In The Mist*, which was later turned into a film. In 1985, aged 53, Fossey was found bludgeoned to death in her cabin in the Rwandan mountains. Her mysterious murder remains unsolved.

02 Her camp drove students away

Fossey had to overcome a lot of obstacles in her studies of the Rwandan gorillas, not least of all the camp itself. Along with the issues that come from living in a remote location, many of the students that travelled to help with her studies soon left due to the extreme coldness and darkness of the camp.

03 Her career did not start smoothly

When Fossey sought out palaeontologist Louis Leakey at his dig site, he mistook her for a tourist. While walking around the site she tripped and broke her ankle along with a newly excavated fossil. Despite this, she continued to the mountains of Congo, where she glimpsed her first mountain gorilla.

04 She battled constantly with poachers

During one of Fossey's trips to America, she placed an up-and-coming research student, Alan Goodall, in charge of her camp. During this time he shot two poachers in their legs, and in revenge the poachers killed six mountain gorillas. This ongoing war with the poachers is regarded by some to have caused Fossey's murder.

05 She's attracted controversy

Despite her pioneering work, Fossey was rumoured to have a dark side. It was reported she would capture those she suspected of poaching, strip them and beat them with nettles. In 2002, *The Wall Street Journal* dubbed her "a racist alcoholic who regarded her gorillas as better than the African people who lived around them."

© Alamy

WATERLOO1815

THE ART OF BATTLE
EXHIBITION

22 May – 23 August

A new exhibition of arts and armour to mark the 200th anniversary of one of Europe's most significant events - the Battle of Waterloo.

Featuring the rarely exhibited monumental 'cartoon' by Daniel Maclise, on loan from the Royal Academy of Arts and the magnificent painting 'Scotland Forever!' by Lady Elizabeth Butler from Leeds City Art Gallery, as well as the newly conserved Siborne model of the battlefield in miniature.

Stunning works of art displayed for the first time alongside objects associated with the battle which tell the story of the events of 18 June 1815.

FREE ADMISSION

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Saturday 13 June / 9.30am – 4.30pm / £30
Book T: 0113 220 1888 / E: bookings@armouries.org.uk

NAPOLEONIC WARGAMING EVENT
Saturday 13 & Sunday 14 June
For further information visit our website

#Waterloo1815

Daniel Maclise RA (1806-70), Detail from the cartoon for 'The Meeting of Wellington and Blücher' © Royal Academy of Arts, London; Photographer: Prudence Cuming Associates Limited

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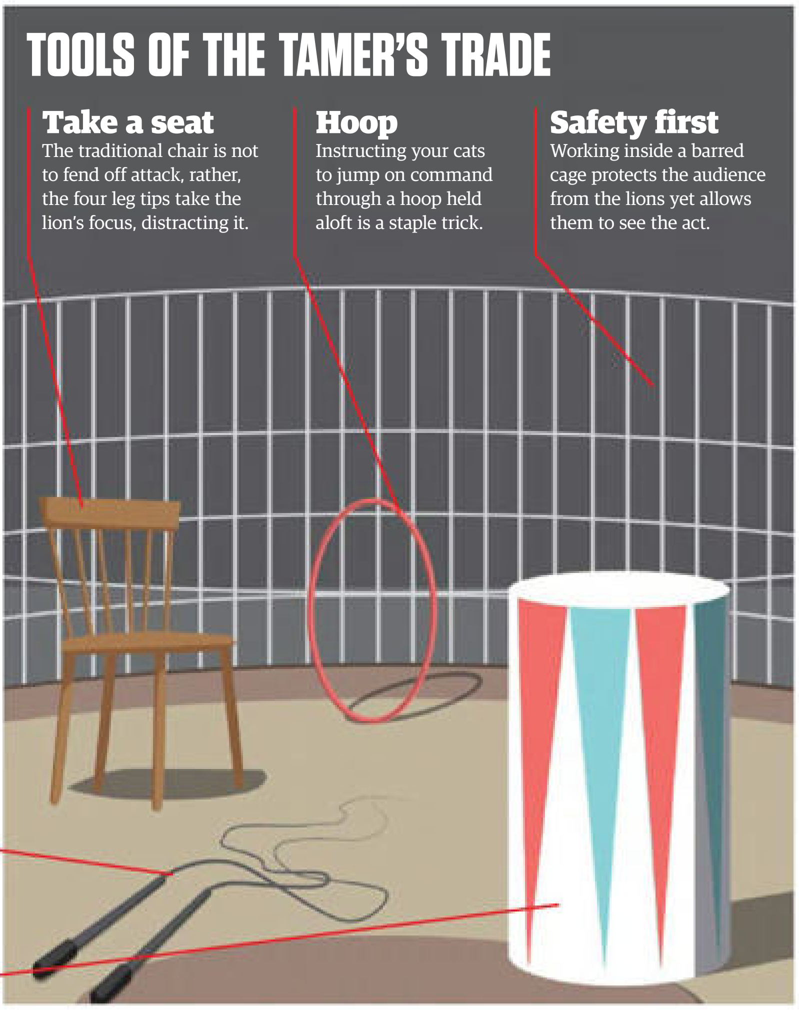
LEEDS

How to TAME A LION

ROLL UP, ROLL UP, FOR SOME SECRET CIRCUS SKILLS ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

Around the turn of the 20th century, they were the greatest shows on earth. Travelling circuses brought a menagerie of exotic wild animals to locations where people could never hope to see them. Topping the bill of the daring acts on display were lion tamers – men, and occasionally women, risking their lives performing in cages with the kings of the jungle. Times change, and today animal acts involving big cats are considered cruel. A ban on them in circuses is imminent in the UK, yet the tamers' techniques can still be acquired by those courageous enough to tackle this dangerous trade...



TOOLS OF THE TAMER'S TRADE

Take a seat
The traditional chair is not to fend off attack, rather, the four leg tips take the lion's focus, distracting it.

Hoop
Instructing your cats to jump on command through a hoop held aloft is a staple trick.

Safety first
Working inside a barred cage protects the audience from the lions yet allows them to see the act.

Guiders
Key instruments – absolutely not for striking the animals – prompting actions and movement. During training, meat on one tip delivers rewards.

Plinth
A 'lion's den' for the animal within the cage, allowing it to be stationed. Improves the audience's viewing experience too.

LIVING WITH LIONS...

JOY ADAMSON

1910-80, KENYA

Adamson raised lion cub Elsa then successfully returned it to the wild after its mother had been killed protecting her cubs.

TIPPI HEDREN

1930-PRESENT, USA

The actress's family lived with lion Neil and trainer Ron Oxley at their Los Angeles home while researching their film *Roar*.

ALEXANDER THYNN

1932-PRESENT, BRITAIN

In 1966, Thynn opened the first drive-through safari park outside Africa in the grounds of his ancestral home, Longleat House.

KEVIN RICHARDSON

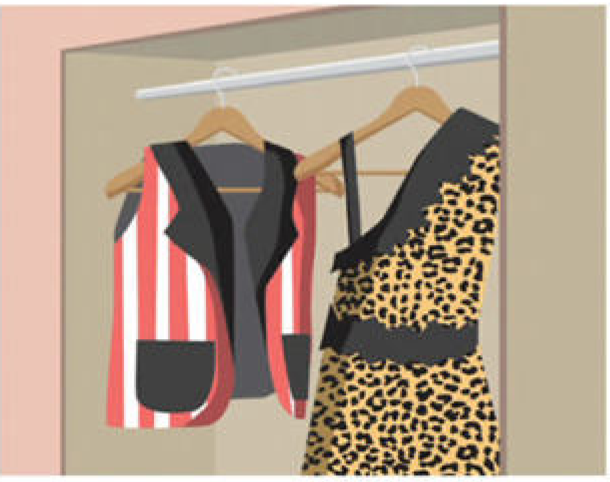
1974-PRESENT, SOUTH AFRICA

An animal behaviourist and conservationist, Richardson has slept with, fed and lived with lions in the course of making many wildlife documentaries.

ANTON LAVEY

1930-97, USA

This one-time circus big cat worker, who later founded the Church of Satan, kept a lion, Togare, as a pet.



01 Define yourself

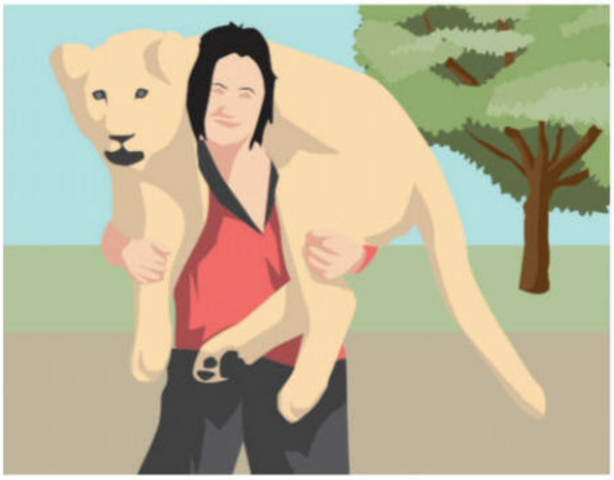
Select your ring persona. Are you looking to be a beast master, harking back to the early, frankly brutal days of the profession? Or are you more of an animal behaviourist, looking to interact with your charges as a trainer rather than a tamer? Hint: if it's the former, expect opposition from animal rights activists that will be fiercer than your lions.

02 Catch them young

Establish an early bond with the cats you want to work with. Ideally, this means getting to know them when they are cubs. Most big cats in entertainment acts are born and bred in captivity. Trainers who raise cats from cubs and maintain a constant presence during their development are creating a trusting relationship with their animals.

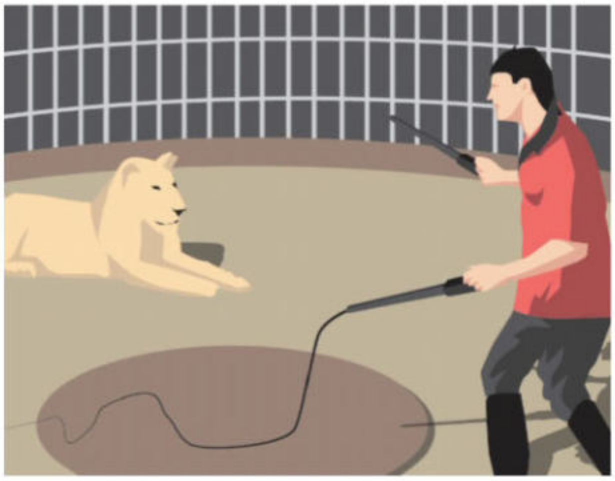
How not to... perform big cat magic

Siegfried and Roy were illusionists with a celebrated Las Vegas show involving several big cats. It had been running for many years at the Mirage hotel-casino, but on 3 October 2003, as Roy brought a male white tiger named Montecore on stage, something went wrong. The seven-year-old, raised from a cub by the pair and a veteran performer, unexpectedly lay down. Some observers believe he was distracted by the beehive hairdo of an audience member. Roy moved to position himself between tiger and audience - there was no physical auditorium barrier - but apparently fell. Without warning, Montecore sank his teeth into Roy's neck, dragging him off stage. Roy suffered a crushed windpipe and an artery carrying blood to his brain was damaged, leaving the magician partially paralysed. Roy maintained Montecore was only seeking to protect him, but the inherent dangers of working with big cats was never more starkly illustrated.



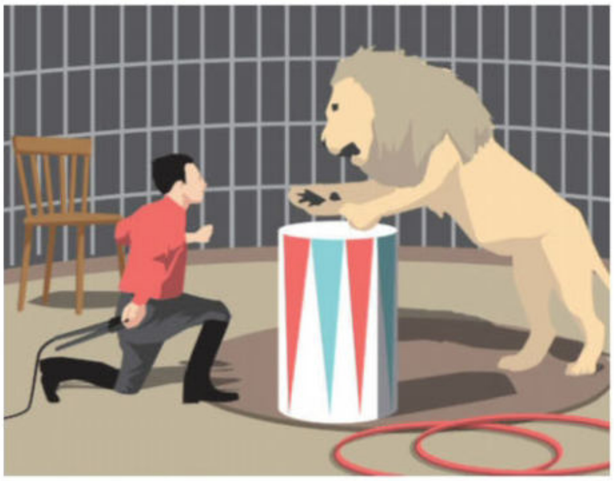
03 Strengthen the bond

Invest time in building the relationship with the cats you work with as they grow. Up to the age of about eight months, lion cubs are like children - they basically just want to play. Yet while formal training isn't really possible at this stage, time spent with them so that you can start getting a handle on their characters is invaluable.



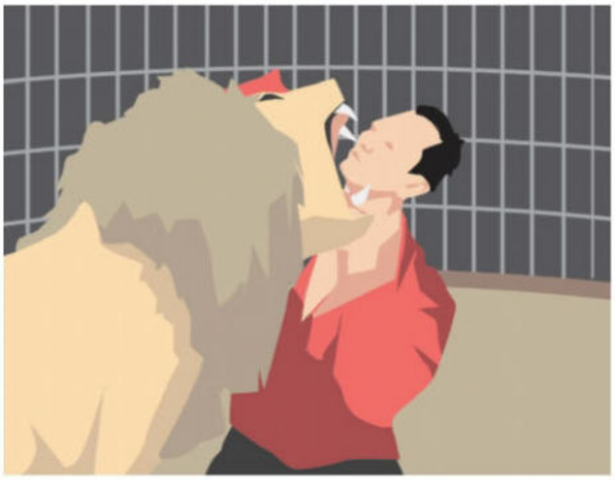
04 Down to business

When the cats are ready, it's largely about operant conditioning. This concept of behavioural psychology allows trainers to teach animals to connect an action with a signal. When an animal behaves in a desired manner, give them positive reinforcement (usually food). Rewarding seemingly random behaviour increases the chances of it happening again.



05 Refinement

Constant work, patience and persistence will help hone your link with your animal. Positive reinforcement will encourage your cat to react to your guider tip. Trace a circle on the ground with it and as your cat follows, they will turn in a circle. Reward! Next, classical conditioning will help the cat associate tricks with your actions, such as clicking your fingers.



06 The ultimate in trust

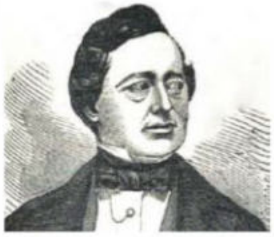
Over time and after years of dedicated work, when you can read every nuance of behaviour that your animals show, you will be the alpha in their presence, but one who exerts neither weak control nor threatening dominance. In such a zone, you are in position to attempt the trainer's pre-eminent party-piece - placing your head in a lion's mouth. Good luck!

4 FAMOUS... LION TAMERS

ISAAC VAN AMBURGH

1811-65 UNITED STATES

The first wild animal trainer of modern times, Van Amburgh may have performed the first 'head in the lion's mouth' feat. He was notorious for brutal training.



CLYDE BEATTY

1903-65 UNITED STATES

Beatty performed his 'fighting act' of 'taming' big cats to great effect, often facing them in their cage with a chair.

IRINA BUGRIMOVA

1910-2001 SOVIET UNION

The first female lion tamer at the Moscow State Circus, Bugrimova innovated many new tricks, including motorcycling with a lion.

THOMAS CHIPPERFIELD

1990-PRESENT BRITAIN

Currently the UK's only active lion tamer, Chipperfield's family has worked with animals and circuses for more than 300 years.

CHIPPERFIELD'S

© Ed Crooks, Alamy, Corbis

Day in the life

A WILD WEST COWBOY

RISKING LIFE AND LIMB TO DELIVER CATTLE TO MARKET, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 19TH CENTURY

The classic image of the cowboy clad in ten-gallon hat and slacks is one that has been heavily romanticised in folklore, film and television. Although cowboys are now viewed as all-American heroes, their roots can be traced to Medieval Spain. Spanish traditions of cattle ranching spread to the vaquero of northern Mexico, where the Mexican cowboys, or 'Mustang-runners', broke and rode horses to markets. Eventually these traditions merged with the English-speaking traders to form what is now commonly regarded as the 'cowboy'. Although the classic days of the cowboys were cut short by the emergence of barbed wire fences, they created a culture so strong that it still attracts great fascination today.

WAKE UP

Every minute counted in a cowboy's demanding day, so they would wake and dress before sunrise after only a few hours of disturbed sleep. The cowboy uniform was not a fashion statement - every piece served a purpose, from the hat that shielded the wearer from the sun to the bandana that protected from dust. Even the iconic boots were designed to dig into the ground while roping a calf.

Cattle were branded so the cowboy could distinguish his steer from the rest

TAME HORSES

Although cowboys are often depicted as having one loyal steed, in reality cowboys needed a huge number of horses for their work. It was tradition to let foals grow up wild in the open range. Once the animals reached maturity, they were rounded up and tamed. The process of taming a wild horse, or Mustang, was known as 'bronco-busting'. Horse taming was initially a very brutal process, but cowboys soon learned that horses that were tamed by more gentle means made more reliable steeds.

PARTICIPATE IN A RODEO

Time spent on the trail riding horses and controlling cattle created a special set of skills among cowboys, and led to friendly competitions known as rodeos. Unlike today's grand demonstrations, early rodeos were informal events where cowboys would test their skills against each other. Formal rodeo events emerged in 1872, and by 1890 they became public entertainment.

CONTINUE THE CATTLE DRIVE

One of the main tasks for a cowboy during the summer was to go on the cattle drive, or long drive. After the civil war, Texas had an abundance of cattle that could be sold elsewhere in the country for high profits. It was the cowboy's job to drive these cattle safely to their destination, usually the railroad to Chicago. Typically there were about 3,000 cattle on these drives, which needed the help of at least ten cowboys. They were also accompanied by a wrangler, who looked after the horses, and a cook.

A calf worth $5 in Texas could be sold for as much as $60 in Chicago

AVOID DEATH, IF POSSIBLE

Although it has been romanticised in films and other media, being a cowboy was a dirty, tough and perilous, sometimes even fatal, job. While on the march the cowboys faced relentless danger, especially from the threat of stampedes and bad weather. Anything from a thunderclap to a twig breaking could cause the cattle to stampede, and getting caught in the middle of the crush posed the very real possibility of death.

KEEP WATCH FOR THIEVES

As well as constantly attempting to control the cattle and reduce the risk of stampedes, cowboys on the long drive had to continually remain on the watch for thieves, who were known as 'cattle rustlers'. Despite Hollywood portrayals, conflicts between cowboys and Native Americans were not frequent, and many tribes even set up a toll system, allowing the cowboys to pass through their territory safely for a small fee.

SPEND YOUR WAGES

When the long drive was over and the cattle had been safely delivered to their destination, the cowboys would receive their much-deserved pay, which could be as much as $90. After following strict no gambling and drinking rules on the drive, they were finally free to let off steam at the saloons and gambling halls. Despite common belief, although things could get rowdy, cowboys were very rarely violent, and any man who stepped out of line would be punished swiftly and harshly.

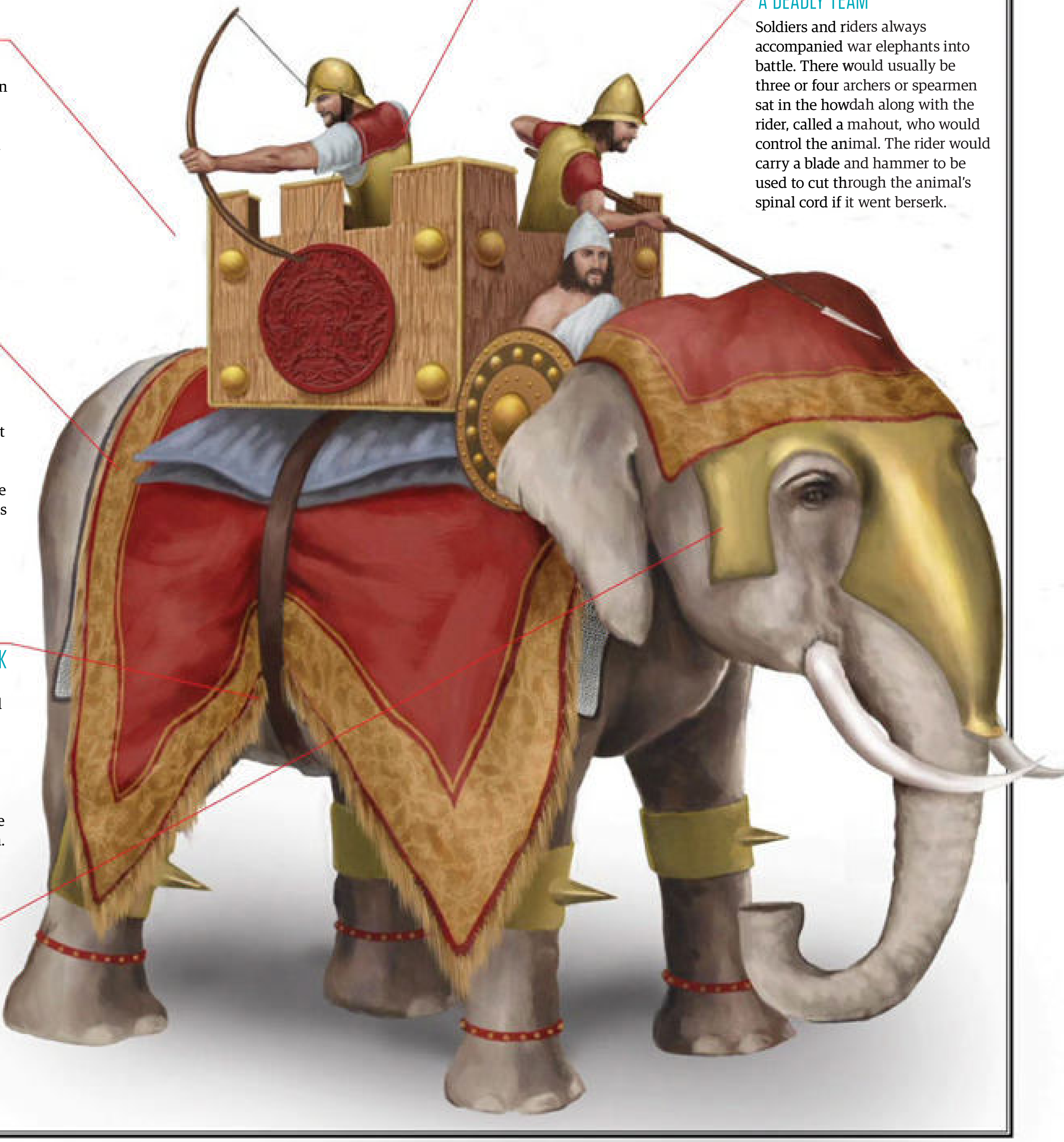
PLAY PRACTICAL JOKES

Despite the serious and dangerous nature of their jobs, practical jokes such as goading a fellow cowboy's horse while he was preoccupied or putting uncomfortable items inside another man's boots were a favourite among cowboys. They had to be careful though – if a practical joke broke a rule or went too far, a kangaroo court could be set up for the offender to be tried in a mock trial. Those found guilty could be made to suffer humiliating punishments, like being thrown in the horse trough.

Cowboys had to be on constant look out for cattle rustlers

THE *Anatomy of* A PERSIAN WAR ELEPHANT

THE ANCIENT WORLD'S HEAVY TANK, PERSIA, 331 BCE



HOWDAH

NOT JUST FOR ROYALTY

War elephants would carry a large wooden tower on their back known as a howdah. This tower housed the soldiers, who would fight from the castle-like structure. Fighting from the howdah had both advantages and disadvantages - it placed the soldiers at a high height, but it also dangerously exposed them to enemies.

HUGE SIZE

PERFECT FOR INTIMIDATION

Although they were powerful weapons, the most effective function of war elephants was to strike fear into the enemy. Alexander the Great was so intimidated when facing them for the first time that he offered sacrifices to the god of fear before the Battle of Gaugamela. In reality, war elephants were very unreliable and skittish. Having them on the field was a great risk for both armies, as they were known to panic and run amok.

GENDER

THE RIGHT GENDER FOR THE RIGHT TASK

War elephants used in battles were exclusively male. It is commonly believed that this is because they were faster and more aggressive, but this is incorrect. Males were more suitable as any females in battle would flee from males - a very unreliable and dangerous trait on the battlefield. Instead, female elephants were used for logistics work and transportation.

ARMOUR

EVEN ELEPHANTS NEED PROTECTION

Although elephants boast thick skin that makes them formidable enemies on the battlefield, they were also further protected. Usually elephants would be clad in thin plate armour, and in some cases chain mail was also used. Indian war elephants even carried blades on their tusks to make them extra deadly.

DISCIPLINE

A PRODUCT OF YEARS OF TRAINING

Training elephants was no easy task. Most elephants used in battle were captured from the wild, as they took much longer to reach the maturity suitable for battle if bred in captivity. The wild animals consumed a massive amount of food and water and took years to train. Traitors of the army and other criminals were used in training - for the elephant to practise crushing and executing enemies.

SOLDIERS

A DEADLY TEAM

Soldiers and riders always accompanied war elephants into battle. There would usually be three or four archers or spearmen sat in the howdah along with the rider, called a mahout, who would control the animal. The rider would carry a blade and hammer to be used to cut through the animal's spinal cord if it went berserk.

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The 200th Anniversary
Issue Date: 8th May 2015

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Written by Frances White

VICTORIAN CRIME

While overseas the British Empire was flourishing, in London, the city of fog, a grisly war was waging between the emerging criminal class and a fledging police force

As Queen Victoria ascended to power, England's influence over the world spread like a blot of spilt ink, and this dark mark seeped into the houses and alleyways of the country's overpopulated cities. Executions of dastardly criminals drew increasing crowds and headlines warned of the crime wave washing over the country. Thieves lingered in shaded alleys, there were violent acts of garrotting against the rich and influential, and a well-dressed man who killed for fun was known only by his eerie nickname, Jack the Ripper.

The industrial revolution with its smoke-spewing factories created a buzz of excitement in the cities, but life was not so full of opportunities for the lower-class workers. As more families flooded into the cramped cities, poverty thrived. It was soon followed by its frequent bedfellow, crime.

Rookeries sprung up around London – nests of winding alleys, dead ends and shadowed corners where thieves, prostitutes and cheats could scheme and fester. They were a den of gloomy places for criminals to hide, and a twisted maze in which to lose the police. One of the central breeding grounds for this new and dangerous class was the neighbourhood of Whitechapel, along with the surrounding areas of Bethnal Green, Wapping and Mile End, not to forget the ever-growing slums of Spitalfields. These run-down and over-populated places became cut off from the rest of the city, and crime flourished.

Children born in these dens of decay had little hope of leading an honest life, else face the cruel and dangerous conditions of the workhouse. Better to take a chance on the short and fast life of a criminal than the inevitable poverty that hung all around them like the thick black smoke that covered the city. Until 1870 there was no compulsory education, so orphaned, abandoned or poverty-stricken youngsters gained a very different set of skills on the streets.

As they grew up, the street urchins outgrew the silken handkerchiefs and measly rewards at the mercy of their masters. The common path for the older pickpocket was to join the swell mob. These older, experienced crooks were debonair criminals who earned the trust of their victims before bleeding them dry.

On paper, it seemed Victorian London was the safest period in the city's history, but in reality a lack of faith in the police left many crimes unreported, and all peace-loving citizens knew to keep their wits about them, else leave certain areas significantly lighter than they entered them.

CRIMINAL SLANG

A guide to the popular slang terms of Victorian London

AREA-SNEAK: Opportunistic burglar

BEARER UP: Someone who uses a female accomplice to distract men while they rob them

BLUE BOTTLE: Policemen

BONNETING: Tipping a man's hat over his head to make him easier to mug

BROADSMAN: A cardsharp

BUG-HUNTERS: People who rob drunks, usually at night

BUTTONER: A sharper's assistant, usually entices the targets

CRACKSMAN: A burglar or safecracker, a thief who breaks locks

DRAGSMAN: A thief who targets occupants of carriages

FLASH HOUSE: A public house that serves as the hangout of criminals

GONOPHS: Child thieves

HOISTERS: Shoplifters

KIDSMAN: Someone in charge of a troupe of child thieves

MAGSMAN: Confidence tricksters, usually inferior

MALTOOLER: A pickpocket who steals from those riding the omnibus

PRIG: A thief

RAMPSMEN: A hoodlum

ROOKERY: A slum

SHARPER: A swindler, usually involved in rigged card games

SMASHERS/SHOFULMEN: Counterfeiters

SMATTER Hauling: stealing handkerchiefs from men

SPEELERS: Gamblers

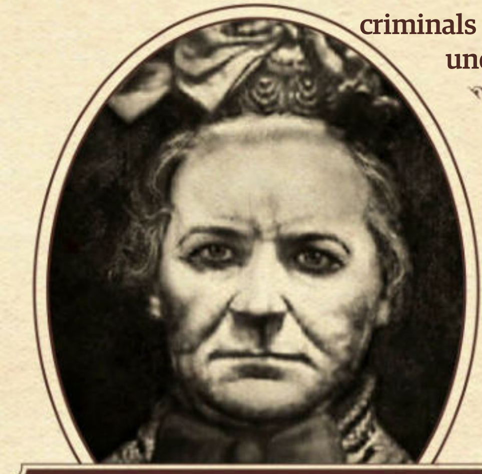
SWELL MOB: Elite pickpockets, usually well dressed and appearing respectable

THE FAMILY: The criminal underworld

THIMBLE-RIGGER: A con man who dupes people with the shell game - where an item is hidden under one of three cups

VICTORIA'S MOST WANTED

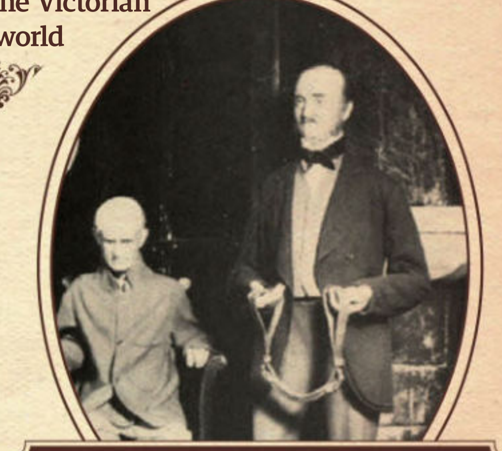
The most deadly and dastardly criminals of the Victorian underworld



AMELIA DYER

1837-96

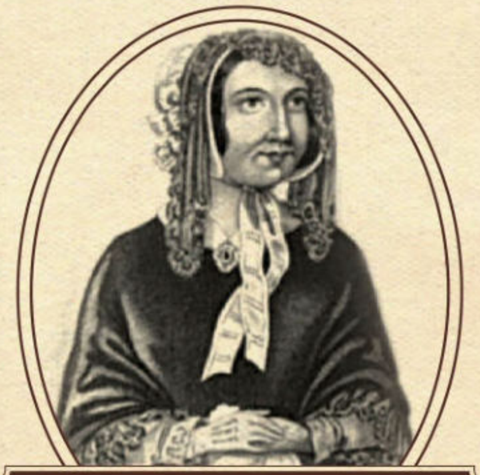
NICKNAMES Ogress of Reading, The Reading Baby Farmer
CRIME After training as a nurse for many years, Dyer opened her home to young pregnant women who had conceived out of wedlock. When the babies were born she promised the mothers she would provide a safe and loving home for a one-off payment. However, instead of providing homes, Dyer killed the children and pocketed the profits. Although she aroused suspicion, she was able to avoid detection thanks to various conveniently timed stays in mental hospitals. When her crimes were finally discovered, Dyer had been responsible for 200-400+ child deaths.
PUNISHMENT Hung from the neck until dead
LAST WORDS "I have nothing to say."



CHARLES PEACE

1832-79

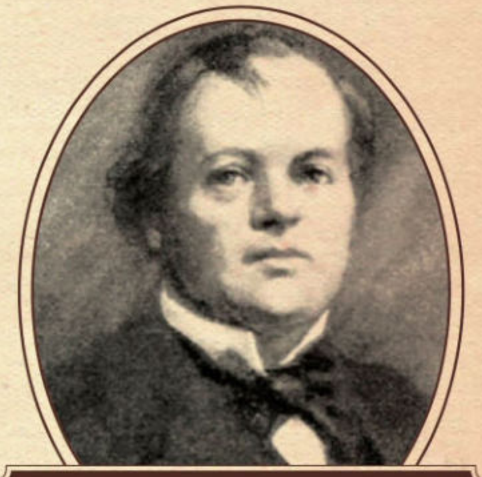
NICKNAME The Banner Cross Killer
CRIME Beginning with small robberies, Peace was in and out of jail throughout his life. In 1876, he killed a police officer while robbing a house, but instead William Habron was found guilty. Peace later became obsessed with a woman called Katherine Dyson. One night her husband caught him stalking her and Peace shot him dead. Peace was eventually arrested, despite attempting to escape by throwing himself from a train window.
PUNISHMENT Hung from the neck until dead
LAST WORDS "Sir, if I believed what you and the church say that you believe, even if England were covered with broken glass from coast to coast, I would walk over it [...] and think it worth while living, just to save one soul from an eternal hell like that!"



MARIA MANNING

1821-49

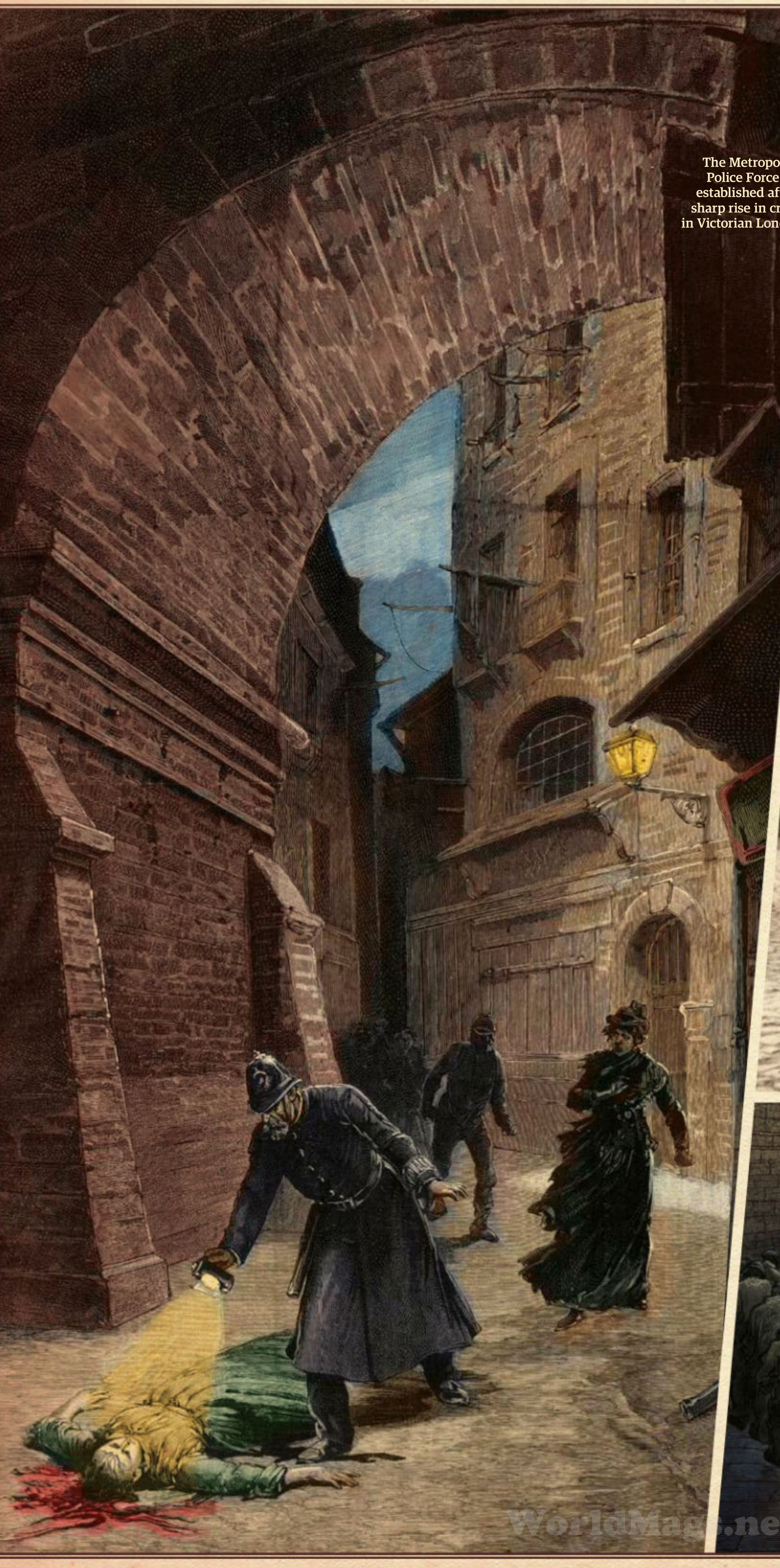
NICKNAME Bermondsey Horror
CRIME Maria Manning was a Swiss domestic servant fascinated with the trappings of wealth, so decided she would marry a rich man to become a lady. She set her sights on Patrick O'Connor. However, she ended up marrying Frederick Manning, a poor railway guard who promised he was set to inherit a fortune. This was a lie, so Maria continued her affair with O'Connor, which Manning encouraged. The couple invited him over for dinner one evening after digging a grave under the kitchen floor. When he arrived, she shot him, but the wound was not fatal, and Manning battered him to death with a chisel.
PUNISHMENT Hung from the neck until dead
LAST WORDS None reported



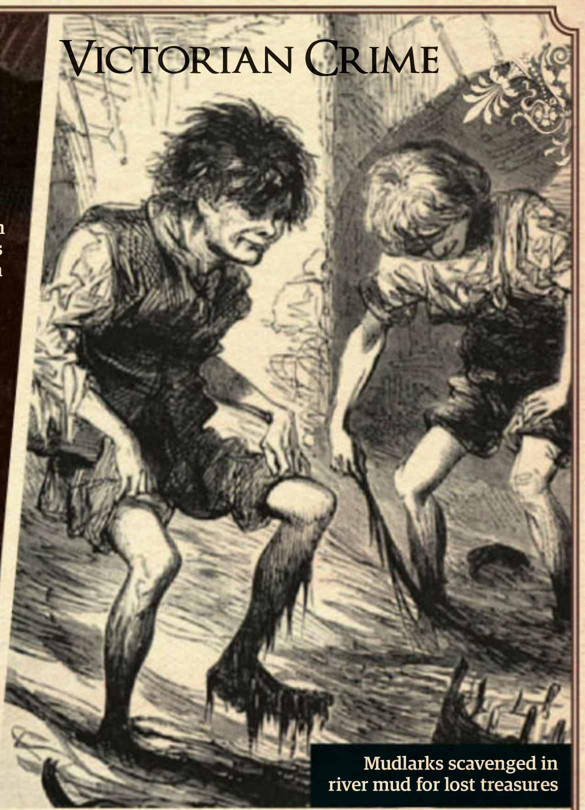
WILLIAM PALMER

1824-56

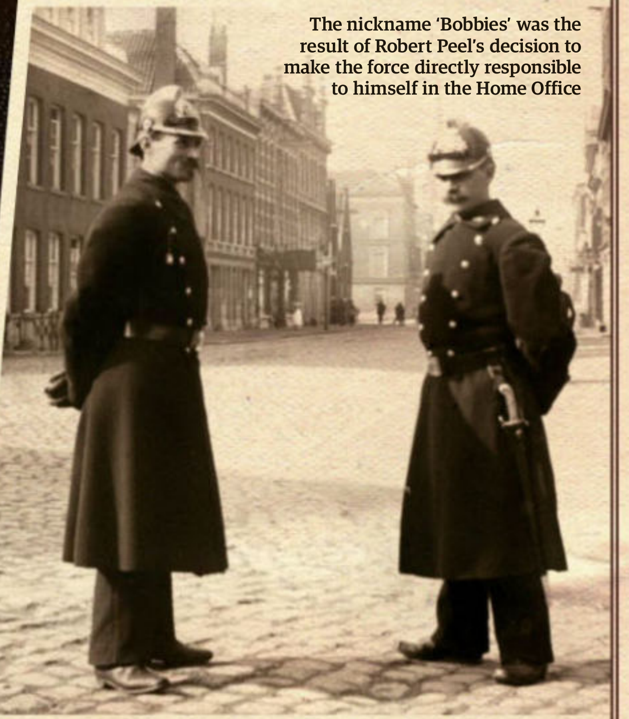
NICKNAMES The Rugeley Poisoner, The Prince of Poisoners
CRIME Palmer was involved in crime from an early age, facing allegations of stealing. He later became a doctor, but death seemed to follow Palmer – within weeks of his marriage to Anne Thornton, her wealthy mother was dead, and even four of his own children died mysteriously. In debt, Palmer took out life insurance on his wife and brother and they both died soon after. The murder of John Cook finally exposed Palmer. Cook was poisoned by Palmer, who then interfered with the post mortem. Despite this, poisoning by strychnine was ruled as the cause of death and Palmer found guilty. It is believed he killed 14 people.
PUNISHMENT Hung from the neck until dead
LAST WORDS "Cook did not die from strychnine."



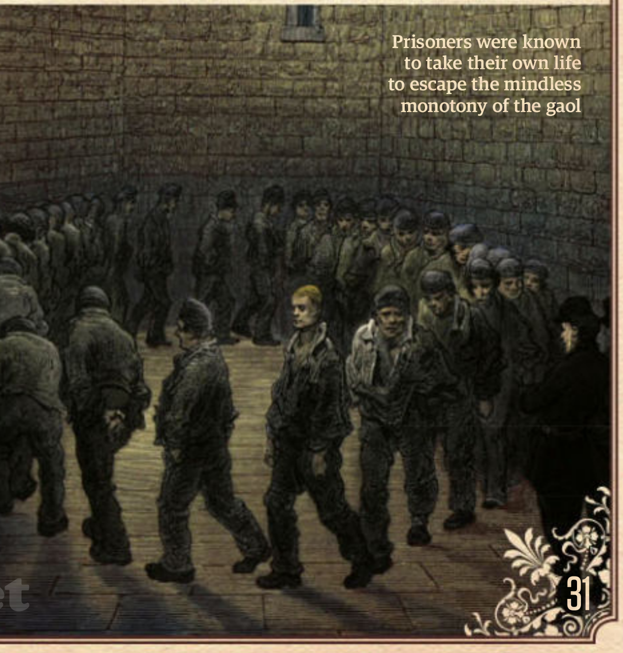
The Metropolitan Police Force was established after a sharp rise in crime in Victorian London



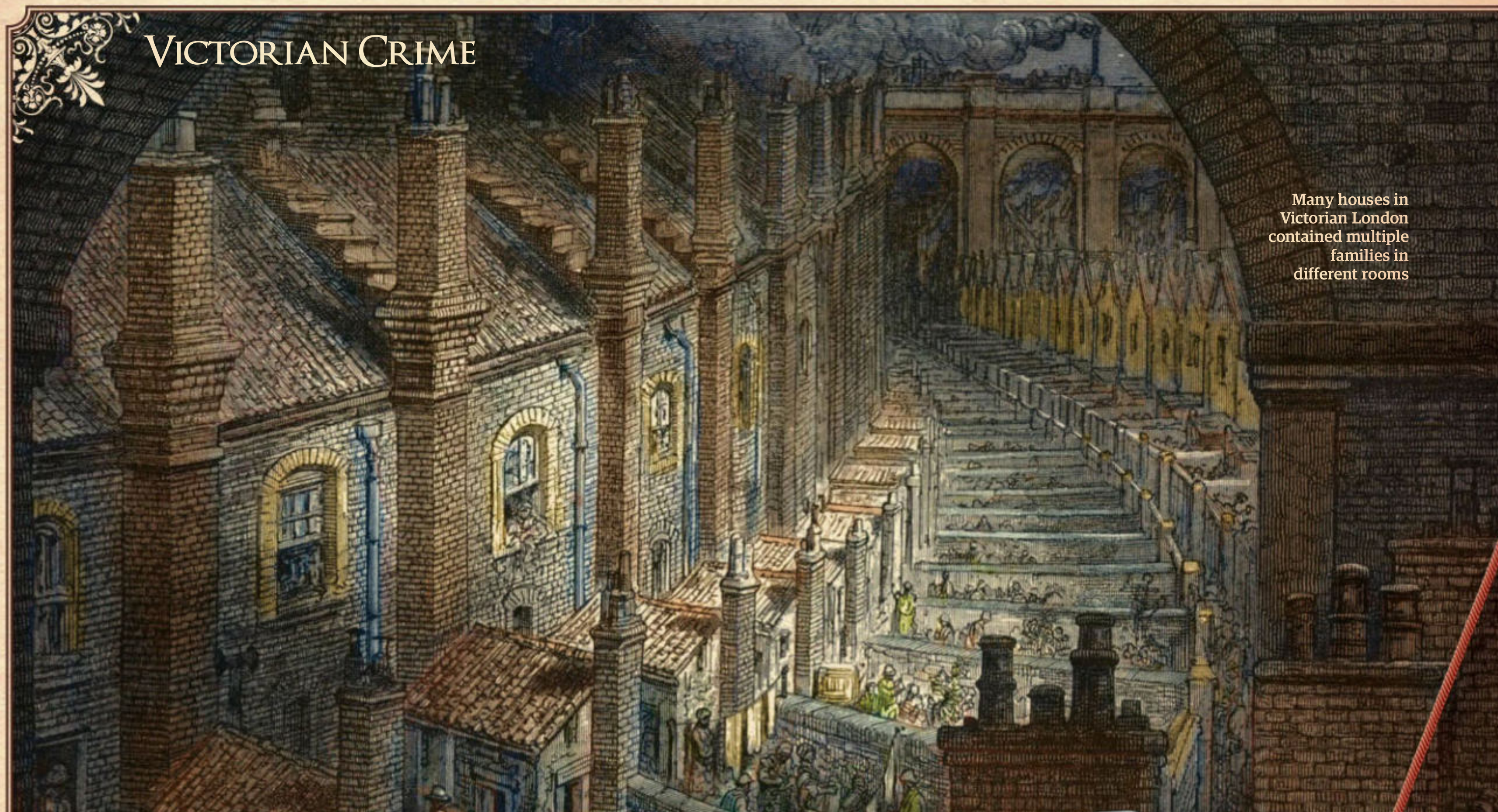
Mudlarks scavenged in river mud for lost treasures



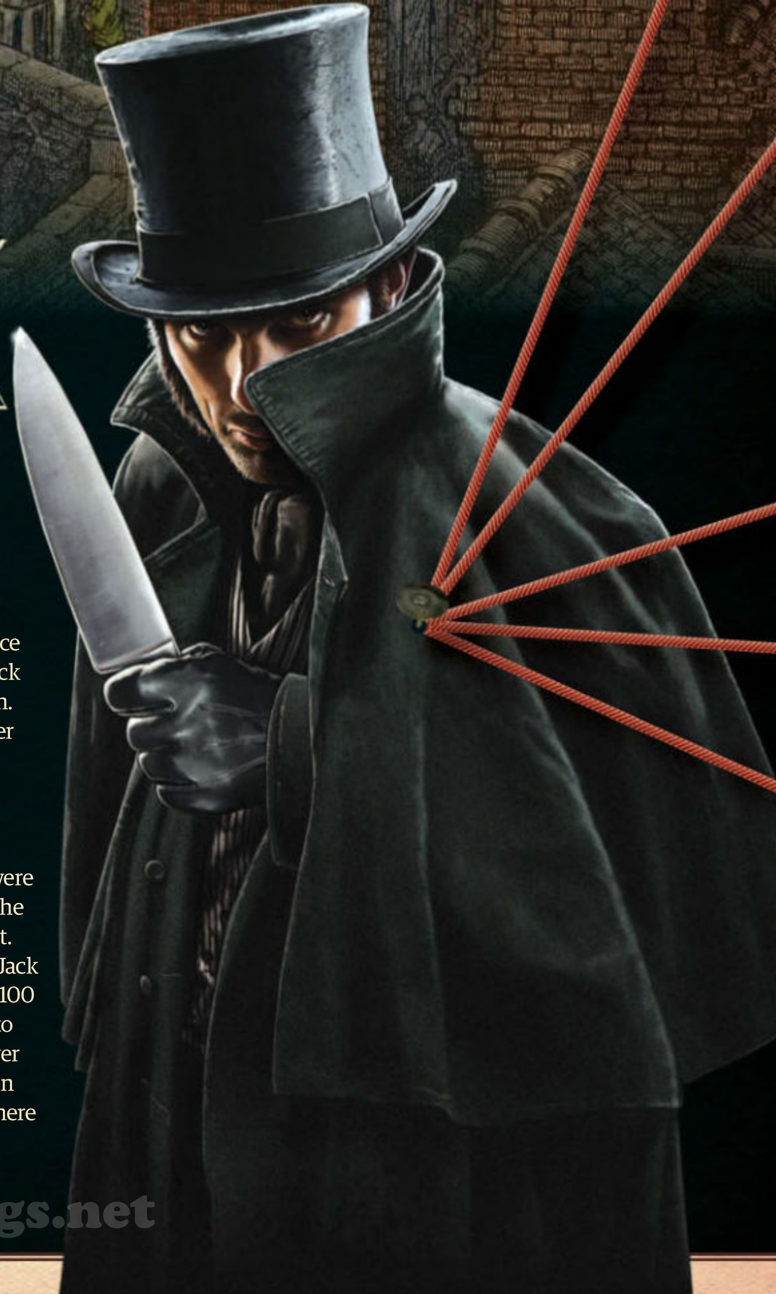
The nickname 'Bobbies' was the result of Robert Peel's decision to make the force directly responsible to himself in the Home Office



Prisoners were known to take their own life to escape the mindless monotony of the gaol



Many houses in Victorian London contained multiple families in different rooms



WHO WAS JACK THE RIPPER?

Unsolved murders in 19th-century London were not uncommon. The vast majority of victims were prostitutes, and the bodies of these fallen women were found so often that it's impossible to estimate just how many were murdered. But there was one set of prostitute murders so sinister and horrifying that the mystery surrounding the killer's identity fascinates people to this day.

When the corpse of Mary Ann Nichols was discovered on 31 August 1888, it was butchered so horrifically that it was deemed the work "of a madman." It was treated as yet another prostitute murder until a week later a similarly butchered corpse was found. The police soon realised they weren't dealing with a random act of violence, but a serial killer. As the horrors of the murders filled the headlines, the police received a mysterious letter signed by 'Jack the Ripper', and the dark legend was born.

As the murders continued, suspect after suspect was arrested and then released. The Whitechapel murders dominated the newspapers and the police seemed constantly one step behind 'saucy Jacky'. First butchers were accused, then Jews were in the spotlight, next anyone with even the faintest link to a victim became a suspect.

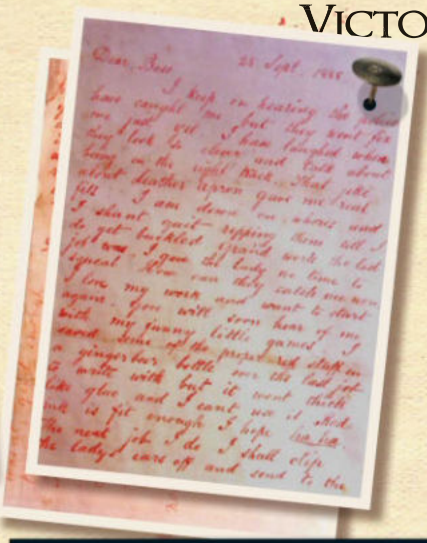
Then suddenly, and without warning, Jack vanished into the shadows. For the next 100 years people have continued to attempt to determine his true identity, but the answer to this mystery seems to have been lost in the dark and winding Victorian slums where he claimed his victims.

Prince Albert Victor 1864-92

PROFESSION: Prince
PROPOSED MOTIVE: Driven mad by syphilis, killed to hide illegitimate child

Elizabeth Stride

BODY DISCOVERED: 1am, 30 September 1888
LOCATION: Dutfield's Yard, Berner Street
WOUNDS: Cut throat



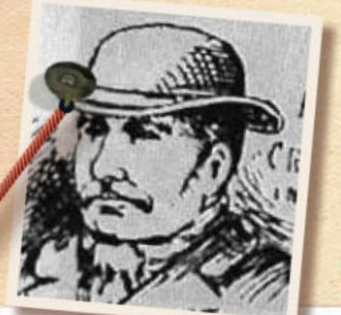
Dear Boss 25 Sept. 1888
I keep on hearing the police
have caught me but they wont fix
me just yet. I have laughed when
they look so clever and talk about
being on the right track. That joke
about Leather Apron gave me real
fits. I am down on whores and
I shant quit ripping them till I
do get buckled. Grand work the last
job was. I gave the lady no time to
squeal. How can they catch me now.
I love my work and want to start
again. You will soon hear of me
with my funny little games. I
saved some of the proper red stuff in
a ginger beer bottle over the last job
to write with but it went thick
like glue and I cant use it. Red
ink is fit enough I hope ha ha.
The next job I do I shall clip
the lady's ears off and send to the

Annie Chapman

BODY DISCOVERED: 6am, 8 September 1888
LOCATION: 29 Hanbury Street
WOUNDS: Cut throat, abdomen ripped open, uterus removed

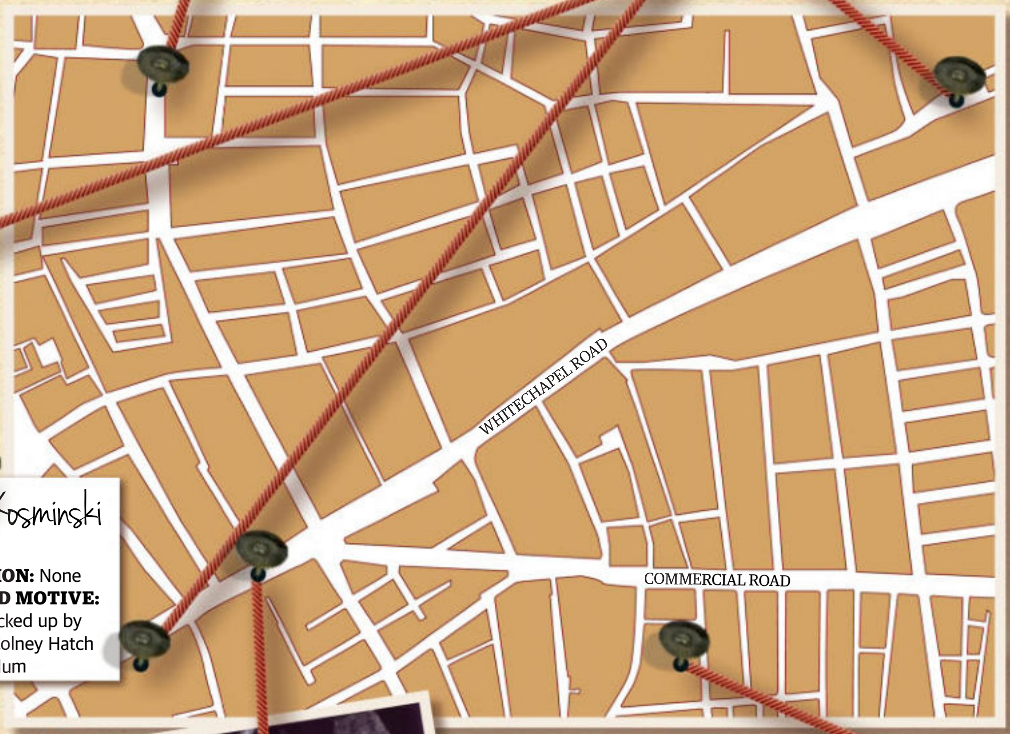
Mary Jane Kelly

BODY DISCOVERED: 10.45am, 9 November 1888
LOCATION: 13 Miller's Court, Spitalfields
WOUNDS: Cut throat, abdomen emptied of most organs, heart missing, face mutilated



Joseph Barnett 1858-1927

PROFESSION: Fish porter
PROPOSED MOTIVE: Obsessively in love with the prostitute Mary Kelly and killed others to scare her off the streets



Aaron Kosminski

1865-1919

PROFESSION: None
PROPOSED MOTIVE: Insanity, backed up by his stay in Colney Hatch Lunatic Asylum

Dr Thomas Neill Cream 1850-92

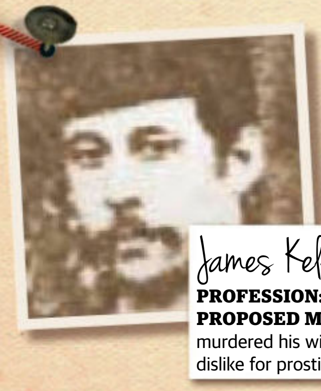
PROFESSION: Abortion doctor
PROPOSED MOTIVE: General sadistic tendencies, his supposed last words were "I am Jack the…"

Catherine Eddowes

BODY DISCOVERED: 1.45am, 30 September 1888
LOCATION: Mitre Square
WOUNDS: Cut throat, abdomen ripped open, left kidney and most of uterus removed, face mutilated

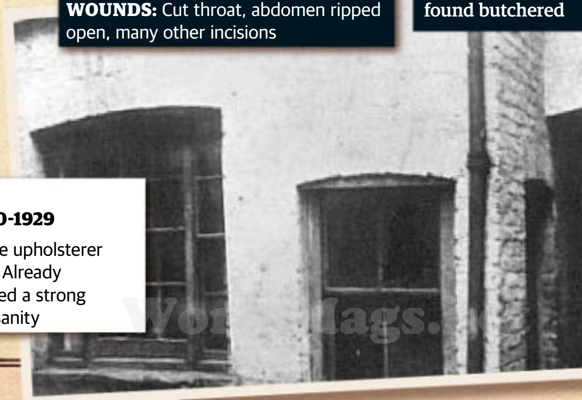
Mary Ann Nichols

BODY DISCOVERED: 3.40am, 31 August 1888
LOCATION: Buck's Row, Whitechapel
WOUNDS: Cut throat, abdomen ripped open, many other incisions

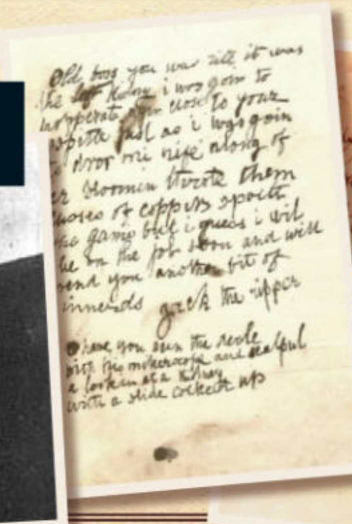


James Kelly 1860-1929

PROFESSION: Furniture upholsterer
PROPOSED MOTIVE: Already murdered his wife, showed a strong dislike for prostitutes, insanity

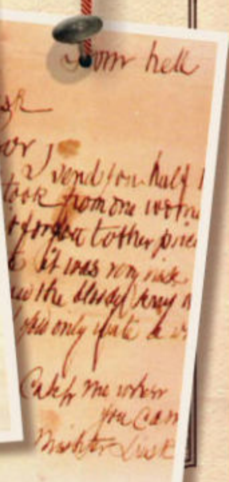


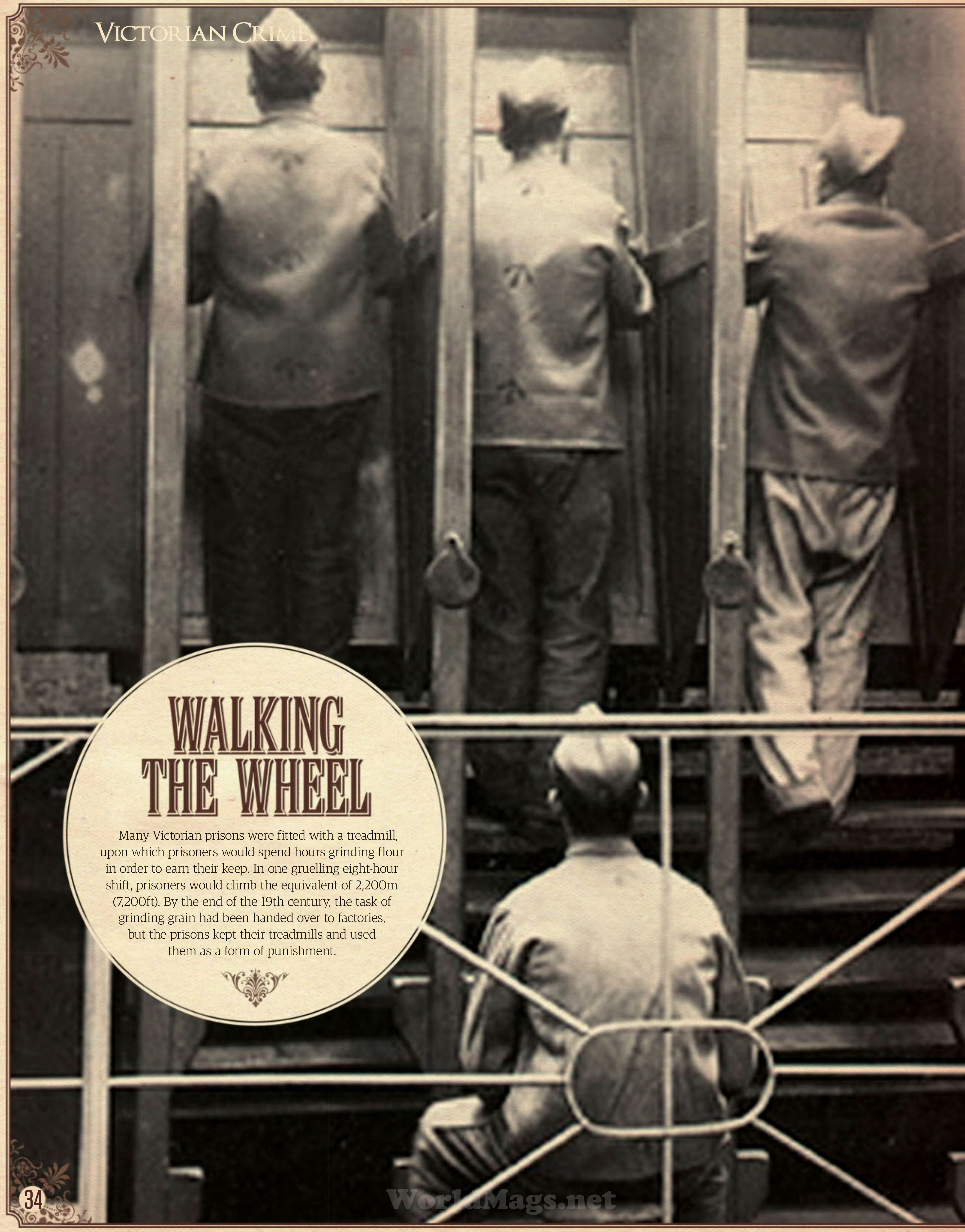
Miller's Court, where Mary Jane Kelly's body was butchered



Old boss you was rite it was
the ~~left~~ kidny i was goin to
hoperate agin close to your
ospitle just as i was goin
to dror mi nife along of
er bloomin throte them
oses of coppers spoilt
he game but i guess i wil
be on the job soon and will
end you another bit of
innerds Jack the ripper

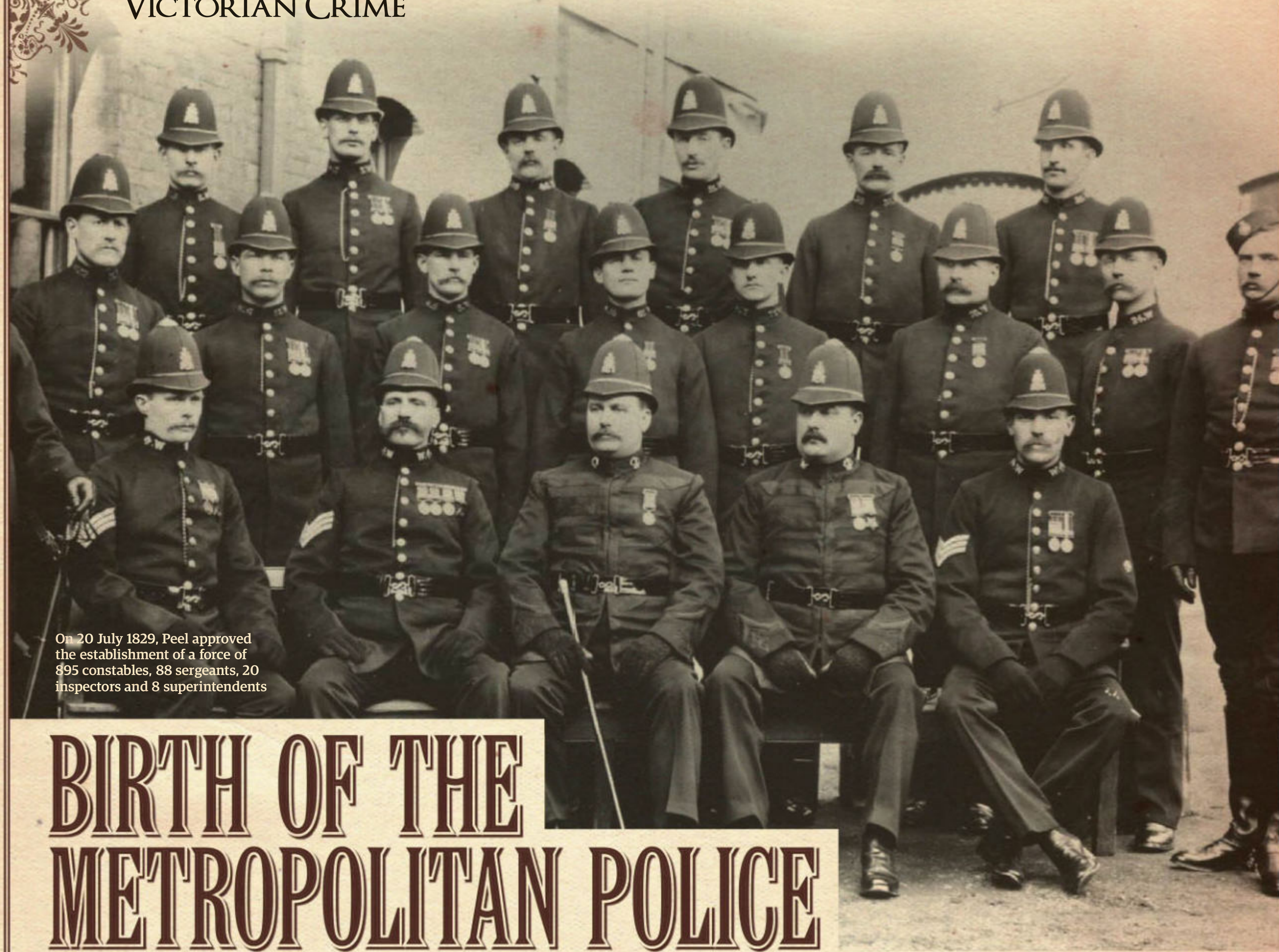
have you seen the devle
with his mikerscope and scalpul
a lookin at a kidney
with a slide cocked up





WALKING THE WHEEL

Many Victorian prisons were fitted with a treadmill, upon which prisoners would spend hours grinding flour in order to earn their keep. In one gruelling eight-hour shift, prisoners would climb the equivalent of 2,200m (7,200ft). By the end of the 19th century, the task of grinding grain had been handed over to factories, but the prisons kept their treadmills and used them as a form of punishment.



On 20 July 1829, Peel approved the establishment of a force of 895 constables, 88 sergeants, 20 inspectors and 8 superintendents

BIRTH OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE

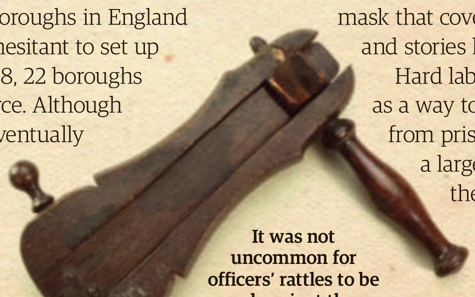
As crime became organised and social disorder grew, it put an immense strain on the dated Tudor system of policing. Prior to the Metropolitan Police Act introduced by home secretary Robert Peel in 1829, small parishes and market towns only had a constable and the local watch and ward to maintain order. Meanwhile, in London, the bow street runners, part publicly funded detectives, became the first incarnation of what is known today as a professional police force. When Peel's Metropolitan Police Force took to the streets of London in 1829, it was to a city very much in need of law and order.

1,000 new policemen were hired to supplement the existing 400. They were given weekly pay and distinctive bottle-blue uniforms; policing became a full-time profession with one central goal – the detection and prevention of crime. The force was specially designed to represent a neutral good – they were distanced from the military and were armed only with a truncheon and rattle (though some did later carry flintlock pistols). Despite Peel's best efforts, the police were initially not well liked. Many citizens saw them as a threat to civil liberties and they earned unfavourable nicknames such as 'blue devils' and 'Peel's bloody gang'. Despite their focus being to prevent disorder, many policemen were attacked, impaled, blinded and even killed. Even with the thorough selection process wannabe officers underwent, many of them were arrested for being drunk on duty, while others were found guilty of corruption. The very first policeman, given the number one, was sacked after just four hours on the job for drunkenness.

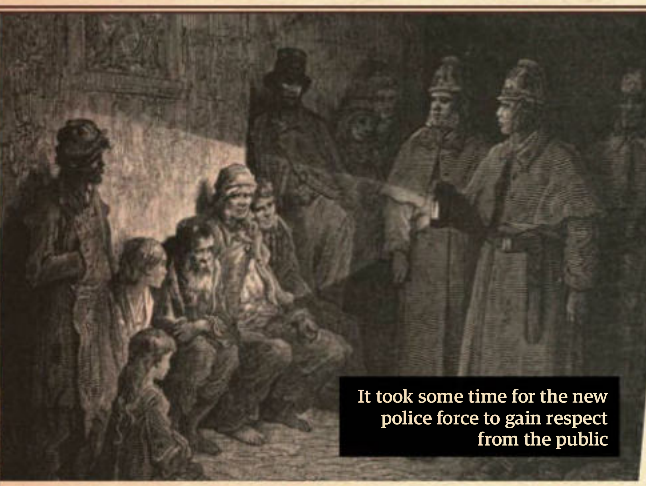
Despite the negative public reaction, the preventative measures used by the police were successful and crime did appear to decline. It is certain that the presence of police dissuaded criminals, but often this merely pushed them into the areas of London where the police did not operate. Wandsworth attracted so many criminals eager to escape the law that it became known as 'Black Wandsworth'. Many boroughs in England and Wales as a whole were hesitant to set up their own forces, and by 1848, 22 boroughs still had no official police force. Although implementation was slow, eventually police forces spread across the country, and in 1856, 73,240 people were arrested in London alone.

For those found guilty, a combination of backbreaking work and mind-numbing monotony awaited in the gaols. The Victorian era was a time of dramatic change in the prison system and new techniques were being employed across the country. Hulks – old sailing ships originally used to hold prisoners to be transported – were increasingly used to house ordinary prisoners. Conditions on the hulks were horrific and cholera was rife as filthy polluted water from the Thames was used for washing and drinking. Techniques of isolation and segregation were employed to encourage reflection. At Pentonville Prison (dubbed a 'convict academy'), prisoners were stripped of their names and referred to by their cell numbers on a brass badge pinned to their chest. They wore a brown cloth cap with a mask that covered their faces – their voices and stories hidden from the world.

Hard labour was first employed as a way to encourage productivity from prisoners, with the treadmill, a large cylinder with steps that the prisoners monotonously climbed for up to eight hours a day, producing



It was not uncommon for officers' rattles to be used against them



It took some time for the new police force to gain respect from the public

CRIME & PUNISHMENT

ARSON	15 years' transportation
ABANDONING FAMILY	21 days' hard labour
STEALING ONIONS	Seven years' penal servitude
BEGGING	21 days' hard labour
MURDER	Hanged from the neck until dead
ASSAULT	21 days' imprisonment
TRESPASSING	One month's hard labour/ fined 27 shillings
STEALING A WAISTCOAT	6 months' hard labour

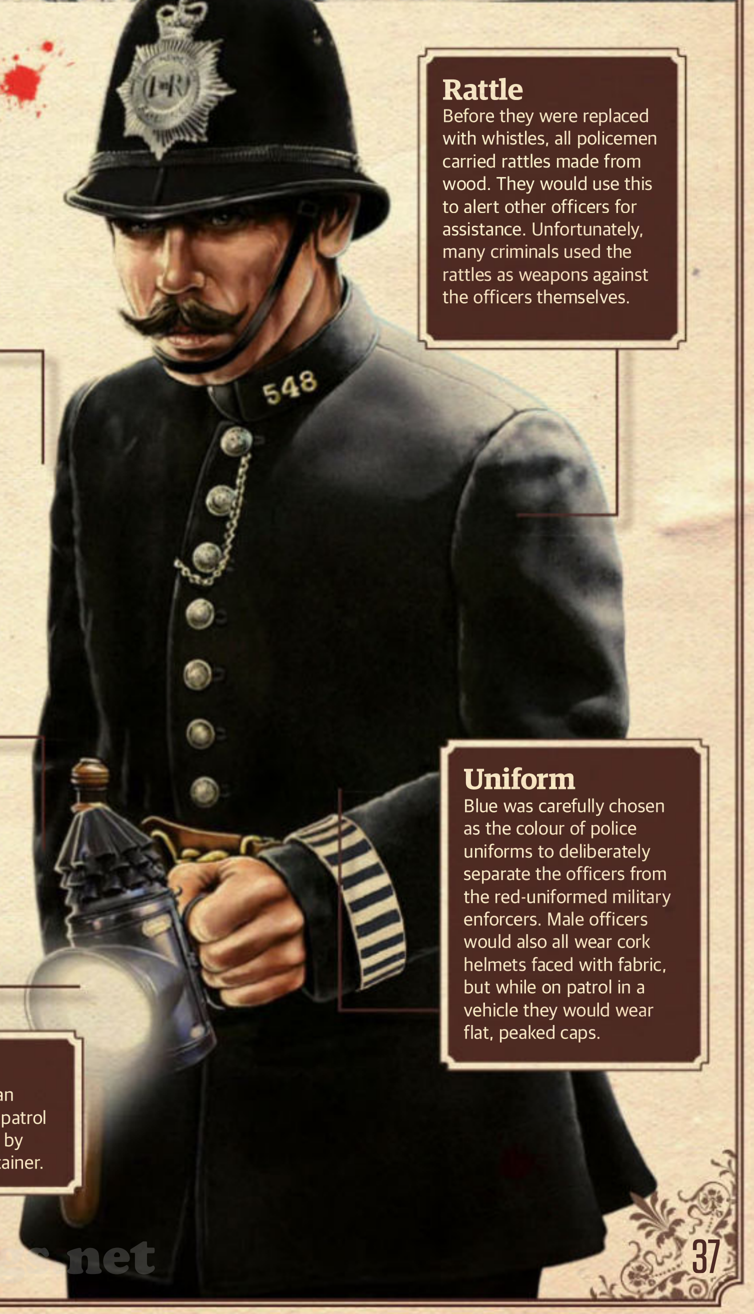
flour for the prison to sell. However, in the later part of the 19th century, there was no end product for this back-breaking task and it, along with a host of other mindless exercises, was designed only to degrade and break the prisoners' spirits. The gaols wished to establish themselves as a spectre of pain and suffering to deter criminals. Because the poor outside were suffering under terrible conditions, the government were keen that the prisons represented a bleaker outlook than the workhouse.

But the cold, bare cells of the gaols were preferable to the grim image of the hangman's noose. Public hangings attracted large crowds up to the day they were outlawed. In one particularly grisly case, the condemned William Bousfield avoided execution by mounting his feet on the sides of the drop. After four more unsuccessful attempts, the hangman leapt into the pit beneath the scaffold and hung on to the prisoner's legs.

Gradually, as the century came to a close, more liberal ideas of reform began to play a part in penal policy, with doctors and psychiatrists interacting closely with prisoners. However, it would take some time for the authorities to regard criminals as more than simply an incurable social evil.

For many, the dangers of a life of crime were preferable to being sent to the workhouse

ANATOMY OF A VICTORIAN POLICEMAN



Truncheon
Early truncheons were heavily decorated and seen as proof of identification for the officers. They also featured the monarch's crown and name of the police force. Truncheons were not replaced by identifying warrant cards until the 1890s.

Handcuffs
All policemen were equipped with two pairs of 'D' cuffs, named for the shape that resembled the letter. These handcuffs came in two sizes – one designed for arresting adults, and the other in a child-friendly size for young lawbreakers.

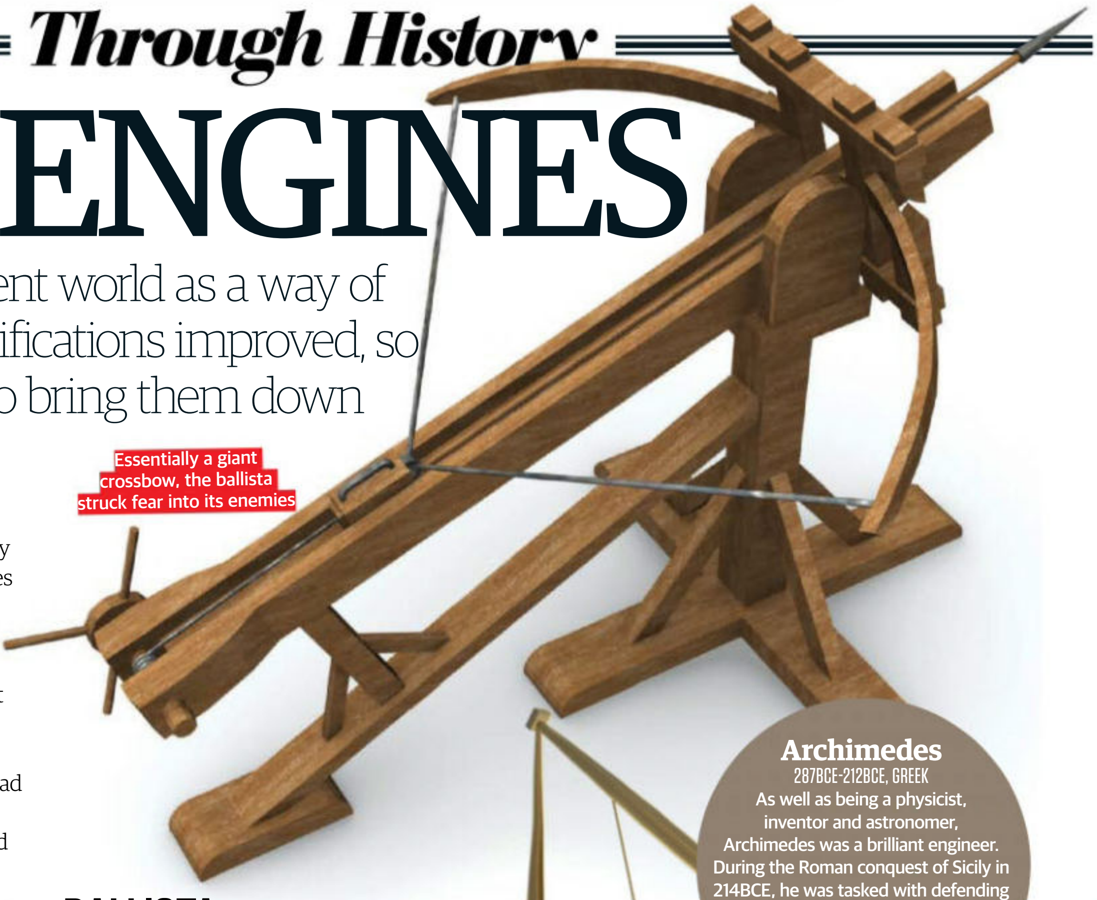
Bull's-eye lantern
Due to the lack of streetlights on Victorian streets, officers would carry a lantern to patrol the city at night. The lantern was ignited by lighting a wick resting in an oil-filled container.

Rattle
Before they were replaced with whistles, all policemen carried rattles made from wood. They would use this to alert other officers for assistance. Unfortunately, many criminals used the rattles as weapons against the officers themselves.

Uniform
Blue was carefully chosen as the colour of police uniforms to deliberately separate the officers from the red-uniformed military enforcers. Male officers would also all wear cork helmets faced with fabric, but while on patrol in a vehicle they would wear flat, peaked caps.

SIEGE ENGINES

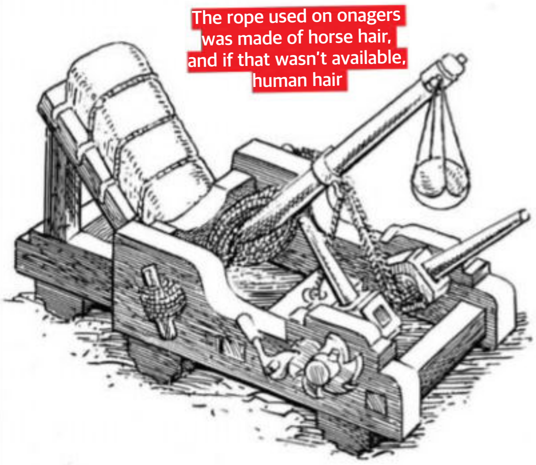
Sieges began in the ancient world as a way of breaching castles. As fortifications improved, so did the machines used to bring them down



Essentially a giant crossbow, the ballista struck fear into its enemies

ONAGER 250BCE

The first type of catapult, the onager was used by the Romans to topple enemy fortifications. Stones would be loaded into the machine and hurled at high speed into walls and ramparts. Simpler to use and on the whole more destructive than a ballista, the onager first appeared in 250BCE, but its exact history is shrouded in mystery, mainly because Rome didn't want any of its enemies to find out about it. Meaning 'wild ass', because it had a tendency to buck up when launching its huge projectiles, the onager design would later be used as the template for catapults in the Middle Ages.



The rope used on onagers was made of horse hair, and if that wasn't available, human hair

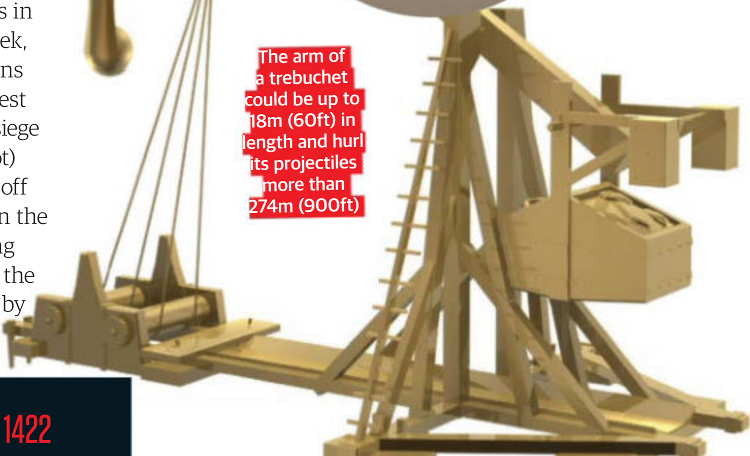
BALLISTA 323BCE

Alexander the Great is believed to be one of the first leaders to lay siege to his enemies, and the ballista was one of the engines in his armoury. As with many things Greek, the ballista was taken on by the Romans and used to great effect in their conquest of Europe. Using a torsion spring, the siege engine would launch 1.8-metre (six-foot) long bolts at defenders to knock them off battlements. It could be used equally in the defence of a siege to take out advancing attackers. The ballista was in use until the Medieval era, when it was superseded by larger, more destructive weaponry.

Archimedes

287BCE-212BCE, GREEK

As well as being a physicist, inventor and astronomer, Archimedes was a brilliant engineer. During the Roman conquest of Sicily in 214BCE, he was tasked with defending the city of Syracuse. To do so, he created huge catapults and other siege engines that kept the Romans at bay for over a year.



The arm of a trebuchet could be up to 18m (60ft) in length and hurl its projectiles more than 274m (900ft)

The first bombards took an hour to reload, and defenders could repair walls as quickly as they were demolished

GREAT BOMBARD 1422

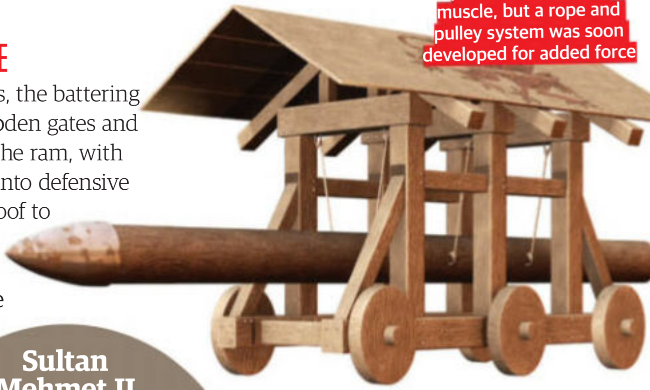
The prize siege device of the Ottomans, the bronze bombard fired huge 300-kilogram (660-pound) stone balls more than 1,600 metres (5,250 feet) into the air. Manned by a crew of ten, it was instrumental in capturing the city of Constantinople from the Byzantine Empire. Also known as the Dardanelles Gun, the huge artillery piece was famous for protecting the narrow strait of the same name. The gun was so integral to warfare that it has been described as helping to end the age of Feudalism and bring about the Renaissance. It was used as late as the 19th century.

TREBUCHET 12TH CENTURY

The king of Medieval siege engines, when a trebuchet was assembled, the defenders knew they were in for a tough battle. Larger, stronger and overall more destructive than a bog-standard catapult, it was first invented in China and became widespread in Europe during the Middle Ages. As well as stones and rubble, a trebuchet could launch Greek fire into battlements along with dead animals, used to spread disease within the castle walls. With its innovative use of counterweights, trebuchets were the pinnacle of siege weaponry until the invention of gunpowder.

BATTERING RAM 800BCE

The simplest of all the siege weapons, the battering ram could still be very effective. Wooden gates and doors didn't stand a chance against the ram, with its metal cap crashing and breaking into defensive structures. Later versions utilised a roof to cover its users from projectiles. The ram soon became obsolete in sieges but it has made a return in the modern day, with police forces around the world using an updated version to break into sealed buildings.


The very first rams were powered by human muscle, but a rope and pulley system was soon developed for added force

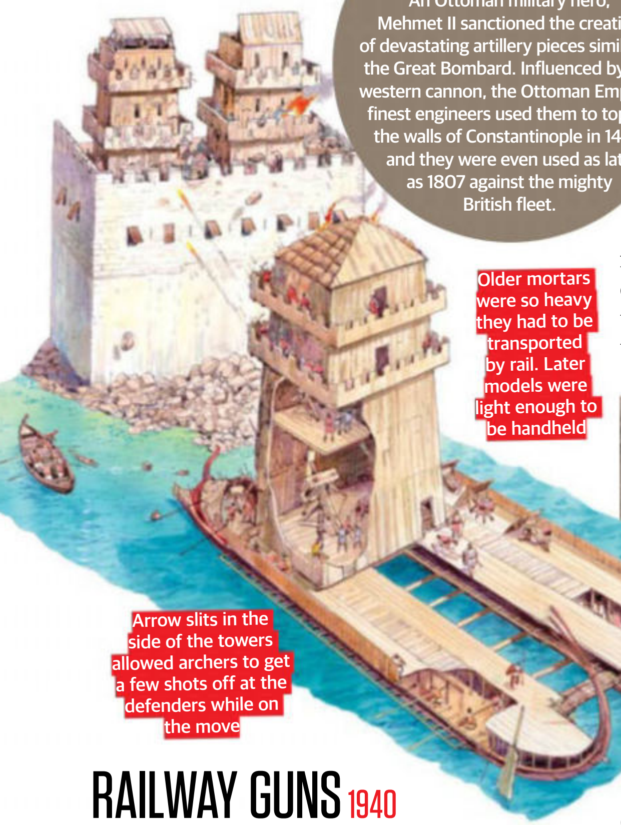
Sultan Mehmet II

1432-1481, TURKISH

An Ottoman military hero, Mehmet II sanctioned the creation of devastating artillery pieces similar to the Great Bombard. Influenced by the western cannon, the Ottoman Empire's finest engineers used them to topple the walls of Constantinople in 1453, and they were even used as late as 1807 against the mighty British fleet.

SIEGE TOWER 500BCE

As castles and other fortifications grew in size, siege engines had to evolve as well. The siege tower was designed to combat the mightiest of all fortresses, its colossal height allowing invaders to storm over battlements. As adept on water as it was on land, the bulk of the tower stored rams and extra infantry within and could protect trebuchets from enemy fire. Moats were the true enemy of the siege tower and defenders would do anything they could to stop this monster nearing their stronghold.


Arrow slits in the side of the towers allowed archers to get a few shots off at the defenders while on the move

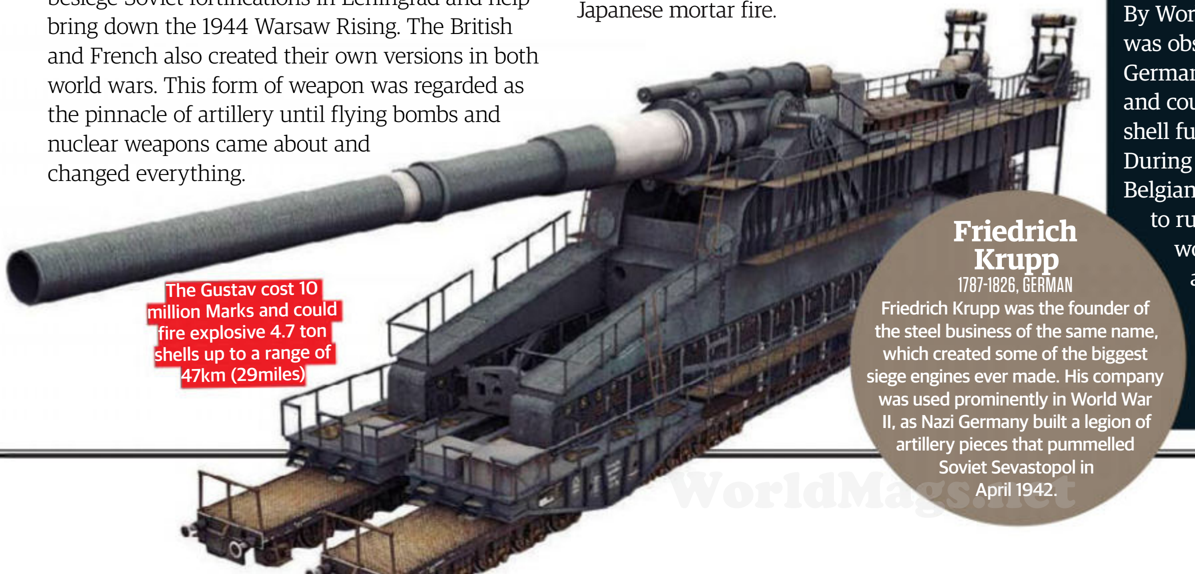
Older mortars were so heavy they had to be transported by rail. Later models were light enough to be handheld

MORTAR 15TH CENTURY

As defenders got wise to the use of cannons, more and more complex devices were created. One such device was the mortar. Originating in the 15th century, mortars came into their own in the 18th century. Launching their projectiles with a looped trajectory, the shells could fire over walls and deep into enemy territory. An example of the brilliance of the mortar was in the Russo-Japanese War, when the heavily defended Russian naval base at Port Arthur was destroyed by Japanese mortar fire.

RAILWAY GUNS 1940

The final artillery piece could well be World War II railway guns. Coming in a variety of forms, the most famous was the gigantic 80-centimetre (31.5-inch) Gustav Schwerer constructed by the Third Reich. Developed to bring the French Maginot Line to ruin, it was used in the latter stages of the war to besiege Soviet fortifications in Leningrad and help bring down the 1944 Warsaw Rising. The British and French also created their own versions in both world wars. This form of weapon was regarded as the pinnacle of artillery until flying bombs and nuclear weapons came about and changed everything.


The Gustav cost 10 million Marks and could fire explosive 4.7 ton shells up to a range of 47km (29miles)

Friedrich Krupp

1787-1826, GERMAN

Friedrich Krupp was the founder of the steel business of the same name, which created some of the biggest siege engines ever made. His company was used prominently in World War II, as Nazi Germany built a legion of artillery pieces that pummelled Soviet Sevastopol in April 1942.

CULVERIN 15TH CENTURY

The invention of the cannon spelled the end of the castle age. Able to blast huge holes in stone, fortifications would crumble in an instant. The earliest cannons were slow and inaccurate but the culverin was one of the first to be a true success. Used frequently in the English Civil War, they helped lay waste to many of Britain's castles and were assisted by other types of cannon such as falconets, sakers and minions. Cannons were also essential in the defence of a fortification, with star forts in the American War of Independence built specifically to tailor for defensive artillery.

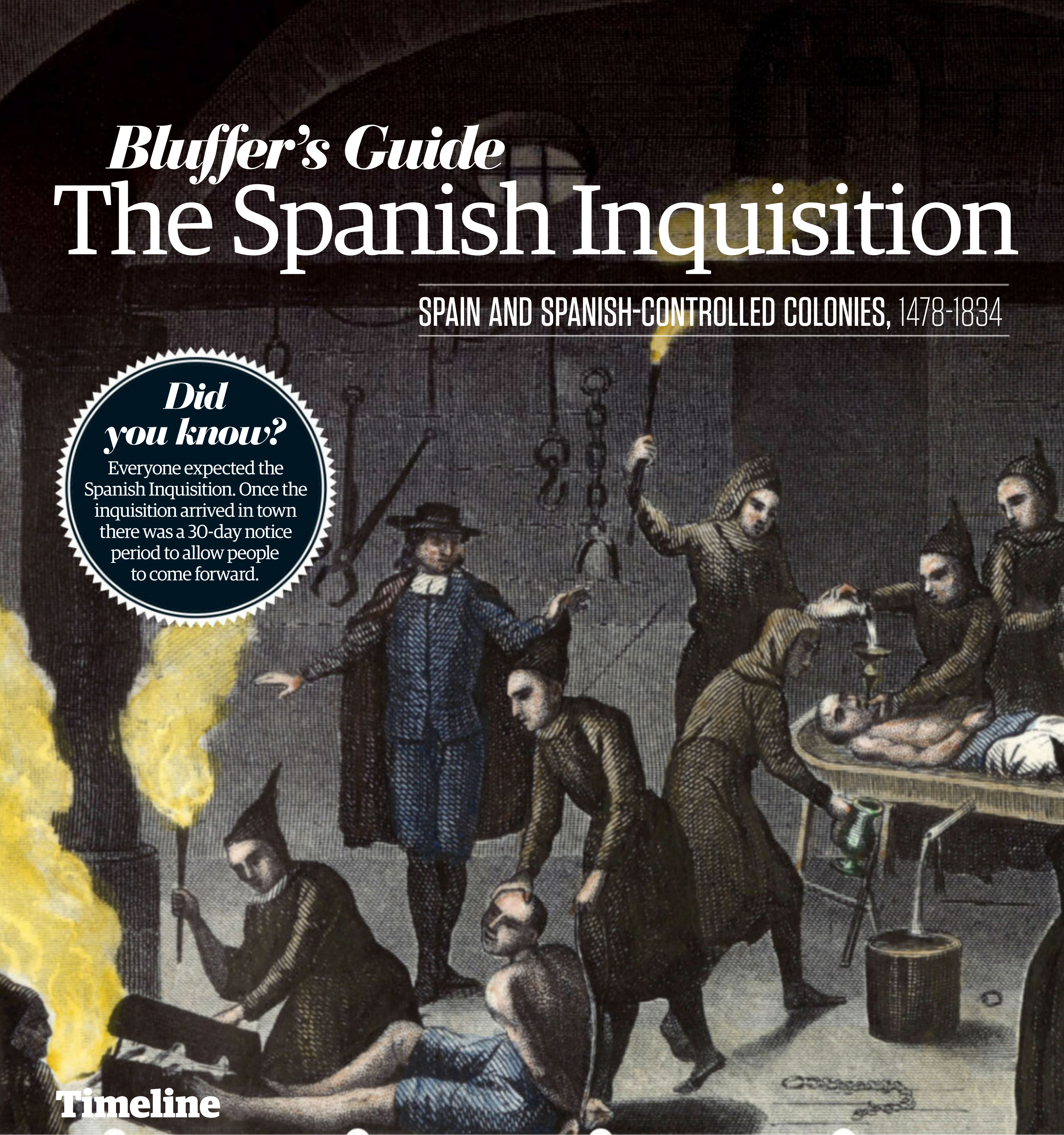
As well as cannonballs, cannons could also fire shrapnel, explosive shells and chain shots

Big Bertha was originally transported by rail but was adapted to use on the roads of war-torn Europe

BIG BERTHA 1914

By World War I, the traditional siege engine was obsolete, but some still remained. Germany's Big Bertha was one such example, and could fire a 900-kilogram (2,000-pound) shell further than 14,500 metres (48,000 feet). During the war, it fired its huge shells at the Belgian city of Liege, reducing a ring of 12 forts to rubble. The gun was the biggest in the world at the time and took six hours to assemble. Namur and Antwerp were two other cities that were targeted by Bertha before it met its match with reinforced French concrete forts at the Battle of Verdun in 1916.

© Alamy, Thinkstock, Dreamstime, Csaba Gyulai (Codename: Panzers Phase One).



Bluffer's Guide

The Spanish Inquisition

SPAIN AND SPANISH-CONTROLLED COLONIES, 1478-1834

Did you know?

Everyone expected the Spanish Inquisition. Once the inquisition arrived in town there was a 30-day notice period to allow people to come forward.

Timeline

1184

The Medieval Inquisition, a precursor to the Spanish Inquisition, begins to punish heretics of the Catholic Church.

1478

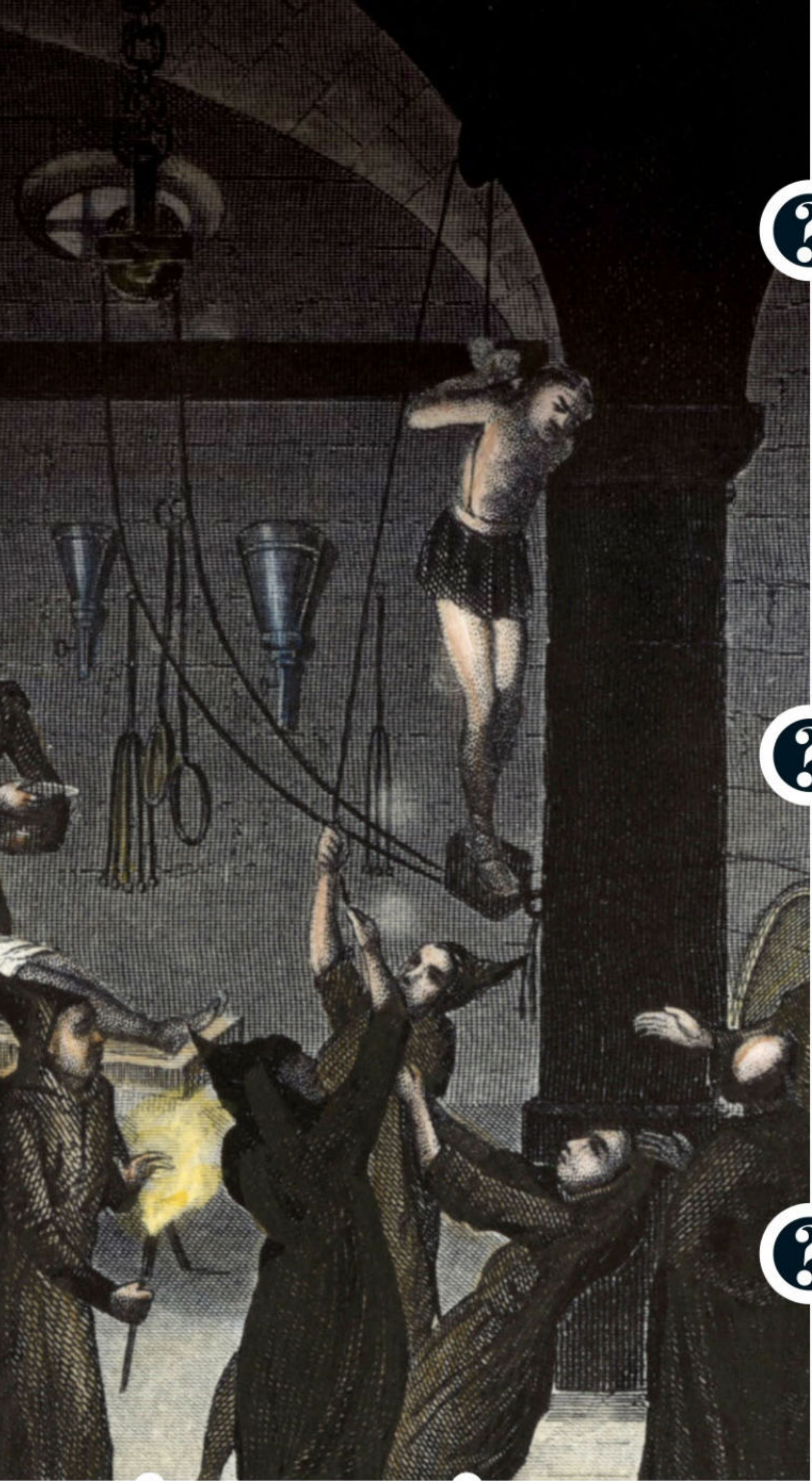
The Spanish Inquisition is officially established when Pope Sixtus IV allows the monarchs to name their own inquisitors.

1481

The first public penance takes place in Seville. Six people are executed by being burned alive in the town centre.

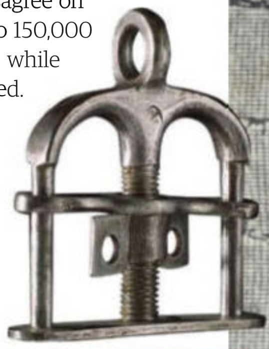
1492

The Alhambra Decree is issued. This formally expels all Jews from Spain. Several thousands of Jews are forced to emigrate.



What was it?

The Spanish inquisition was a tool used by the Catholic monarchs of Spain to suppress heresy among the church. The inquisition was mainly aimed at recently converted Jews, as well as Muslim converts. The accused would be tried at a court, or tribunal, which would travel around the country. Those accused of heresy never knew the identity of their accusers and the only assistance they received was a defence council who would simply encourage them to confess. It was also rare that they would have witnesses to testify on their behalf, as doing so would incriminate the witnesses themselves. The main point of the trial was to obtain a confession, and the inquisition would even use torture to guarantee this. However, it is now believed torture was not used as much as is commonly supposed. Once found guilty, the accused could be sentenced to anything from a fine to a public burning at the stake. Records disagree on the figures, but it is estimated that up to 150,000 people were charged by the inquisition, while between 2,000 and 5,000 were executed.



The inquisition was known to use torture instruments such as thumbscrews to extract confessions from conversos

Why did it happen?

Medieval Spain had been, for a good stretch of time, a multiracial and multi-religious country. However, towards the end of the 14th century animosity towards the Jewish population began to grow. This pushed many Jews to convert to Christianity to escape persecution; they became known as conversos. Many conversos rose through the ranks of government and nobility, and gained great wealth. This sparked jealousy among Christians who doubted the sincerity of their conversions. In response, Isabella I of Castile and Ferdinand II pressed for a papal bill to set up the inquisition. Its aim would be to investigate conversos believed to be continuing Jewish worship. The idea was to create religious unity, but had the added bonus of bringing in cash, as the government confiscated the property of those found guilty.

Who was there?

Pope Sixtus IV

1414-1484

Sixtus was the pope who issued the papal bill that allowed the inquisition, a move he would later come to regret.

Tomás de Torquemada

1420-1498

Torquemada was the first Grand Inquisitor of the Spanish Inquisition, despite the fact that he himself had converso ancestors.

Isabella I of Castille

1451-1504

Isabella along with her husband Ferdinand II established the Spanish Inquisition in response to the public anger against Jews.

1609

Philip III of Spain issues the decree to expel the Moriscos – Muslims who recently converted to Christianity – from the country.

1834

The Spanish Inquisition is formally abolished by regent Maria Christina during the reign of Isabella II.

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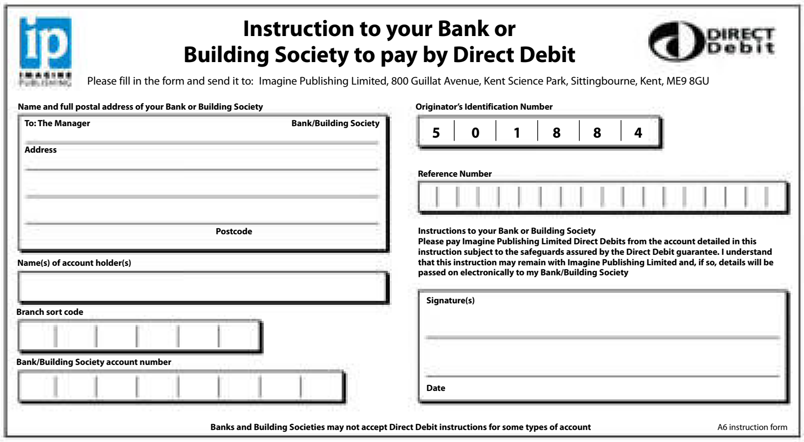

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WATE

THE FALL OF

NAPOLEON MYTHS BUSTED

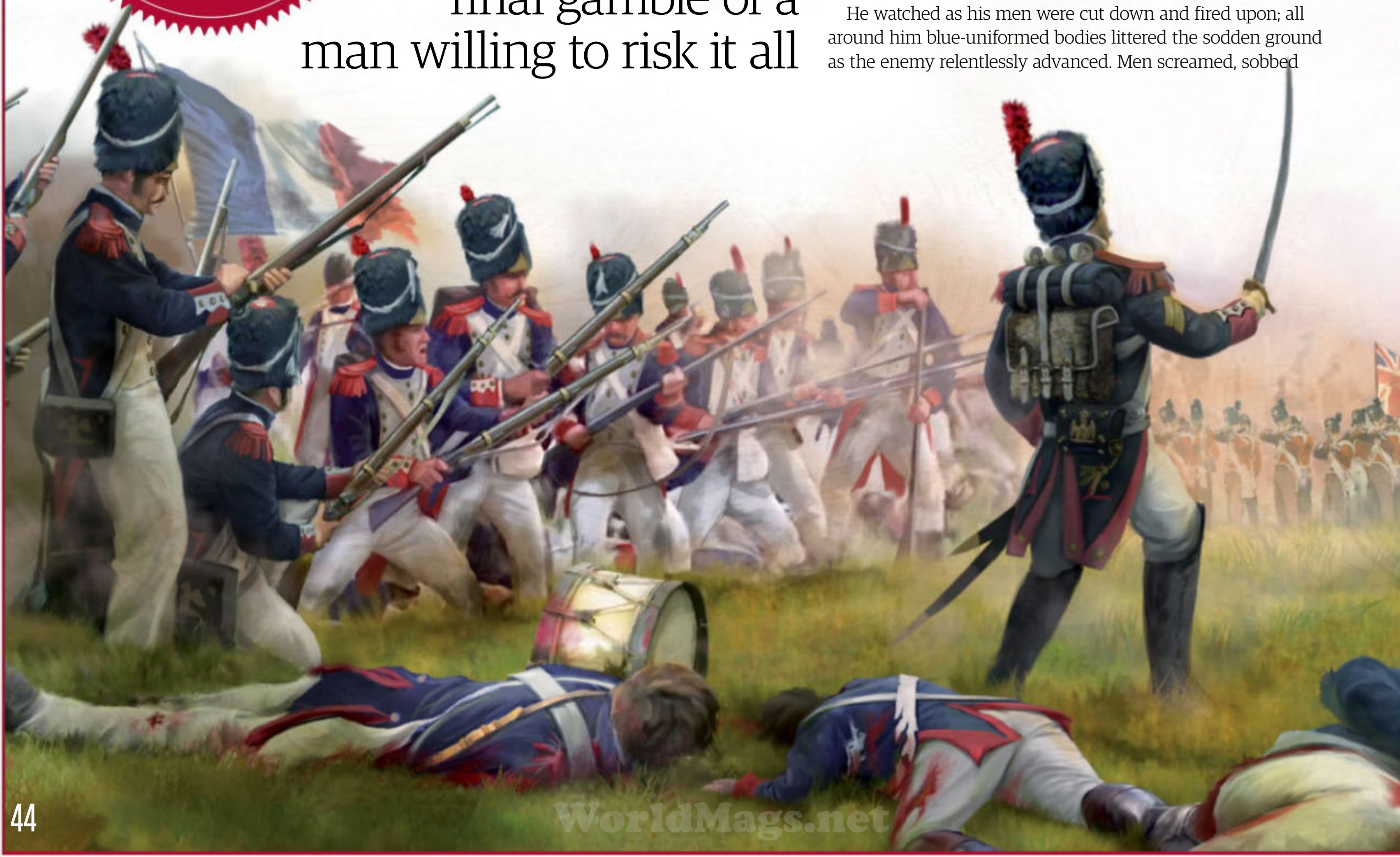
He was short

This myth comes from confusion over French inches as well as the fact that 'Le Petit Caporal' was always surrounded by his tall bodyguards. Napoleon was most likely about 5'6", near average for his era.

Now upheld as a source of British pride, in reality, Waterloo was the final gamble of a man willing to risk it all

Napoleon was losing. He knew he was losing. But he had been so confident in his speeches that his troops were unaware of this fact that was so blatant to him. "Wellington is a bad general," he had told his men, but that bad general had beaten him. Though it pained him to admit it, his own mistakes had played a part too. He heard a voice, it must have been his own, shouting encouragement as he rode between the ranks. His words were strong and firm, but his face must have told a different story, as he could feel the concerned eyes of his aides upon him.

He watched as his men were cut down and fired upon; all around him blue-uniformed bodies littered the sodden ground as the enemy relentlessly advanced. Men screamed, sobbed



RLOO

200
YEARS
1815 - 2015

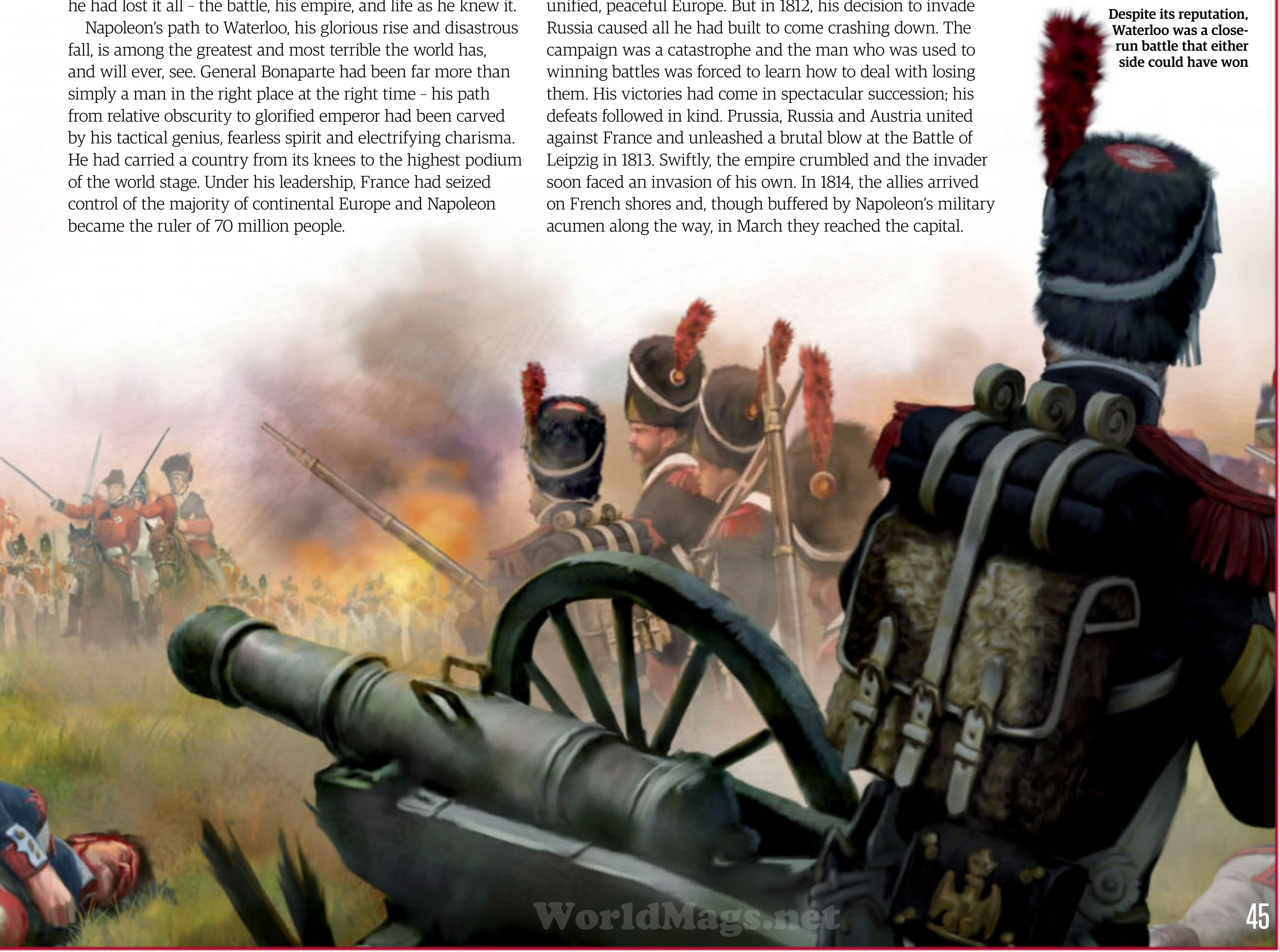
NAPOLEON

Written by Frances White

and some were struck silent with fear as disorder reigned supreme. Just two hours ago victory had been his. In that time he had lost it all – the battle, his empire, and life as he knew it.

Napoleon's path to Waterloo, his glorious rise and disastrous fall, is among the greatest and most terrible the world has, and will ever, see. General Bonaparte had been far more than simply a man in the right place at the right time – his path from relative obscurity to glorified emperor had been carved by his tactical genius, fearless spirit and electrifying charisma. He had carried a country from its knees to the highest podium of the world stage. Under his leadership, France had seized control of the majority of continental Europe and Napoleon became the ruler of 70 million people.

Through war, sacrifice and conquest, Napoleon had come closer than anyone to achieving his ultimate dream – a unified, peaceful Europe. But in 1812, his decision to invade Russia caused all he had built to come crashing down. The campaign was a catastrophe and the man who was used to winning battles was forced to learn how to deal with losing them. His victories had come in spectacular succession; his defeats followed in kind. Prussia, Russia and Austria united against France and unleashed a brutal blow at the Battle of Leipzig in 1813. Swiftly, the empire crumbled and the invader soon faced an invasion of his own. In 1814, the allies arrived on French shores and, though buffered by Napoleon's military acumen along the way, in March they reached the capital.



Despite its reputation, Waterloo was a close-run battle that either side could have won

In a matter of days Napoleon watched as men who had fought loyally by his side turned their backs on him one by one. In the face of the unbeatable allied threat, it was Napoleon, they claimed, not France, who was their enemy. The allies agreed. On 2 April the emperor was declared deposed. Napoleon himself, at the time leading an army in Fontainebleau, proposed they march on the capital, but with his power vanishing, his officers and marshals mutinied. Napoleon had no option but to accept his fate and on 6 April, announced his unconditional abdication, proclaiming there was "no personal sacrifice, even that of his life, which he [was] not ready to make in the interests of France." Napoleon was exiled to the island of Elba, out of the way, hopefully, for good.

Elba wasn't the most welcoming place for Napoleon to rebuild his following, or himself. An effigy of the emperor had been burned shortly before he arrived and the feeling was entirely anti-French. But Napoleon threw himself into the role of ruler on the tiny European backwater island. Instead of accepting his doom, Napoleon began to build an army and plan his glorious return. Englishmen who came to glimpse the fallen emperor reported him dejected, broken and resigned - but this was a damning mistake. Le Petit Caporal was playing them, obtaining what information he could about France and England so he could do what he did best - scheme and plan his victory. As rumours of a conspiracy to assassinate or remove him from Elba began to circulate, he launched his escape on 26 February 1815.

While Napoleon had orchestrated the escape to save himself from disappearing into the dusts of history, to the French his return was a gallant rescue from the old-fashioned Bourbon monarchy that replaced him. The people and the military rallied around their hero of liberty, and for a brief moment France seemed plunged back into the revolution that had helped Napoleon climb to power in the first place.

But the allies were quick to damn the actions of the 'mad' emperor and encouraged the French to "annihilate this last attempt of a criminal and impotent delirium." The allies wanted war against Napoleon, they wanted him dead, and they wanted the French people to do it for them. But his exile and return had only strengthened the emperor in the hearts of his followers, and under such immense opposition, Louis XVIII fled. Napoleon was, once again, in control, but beyond the confines of France, he was declared an outlaw.

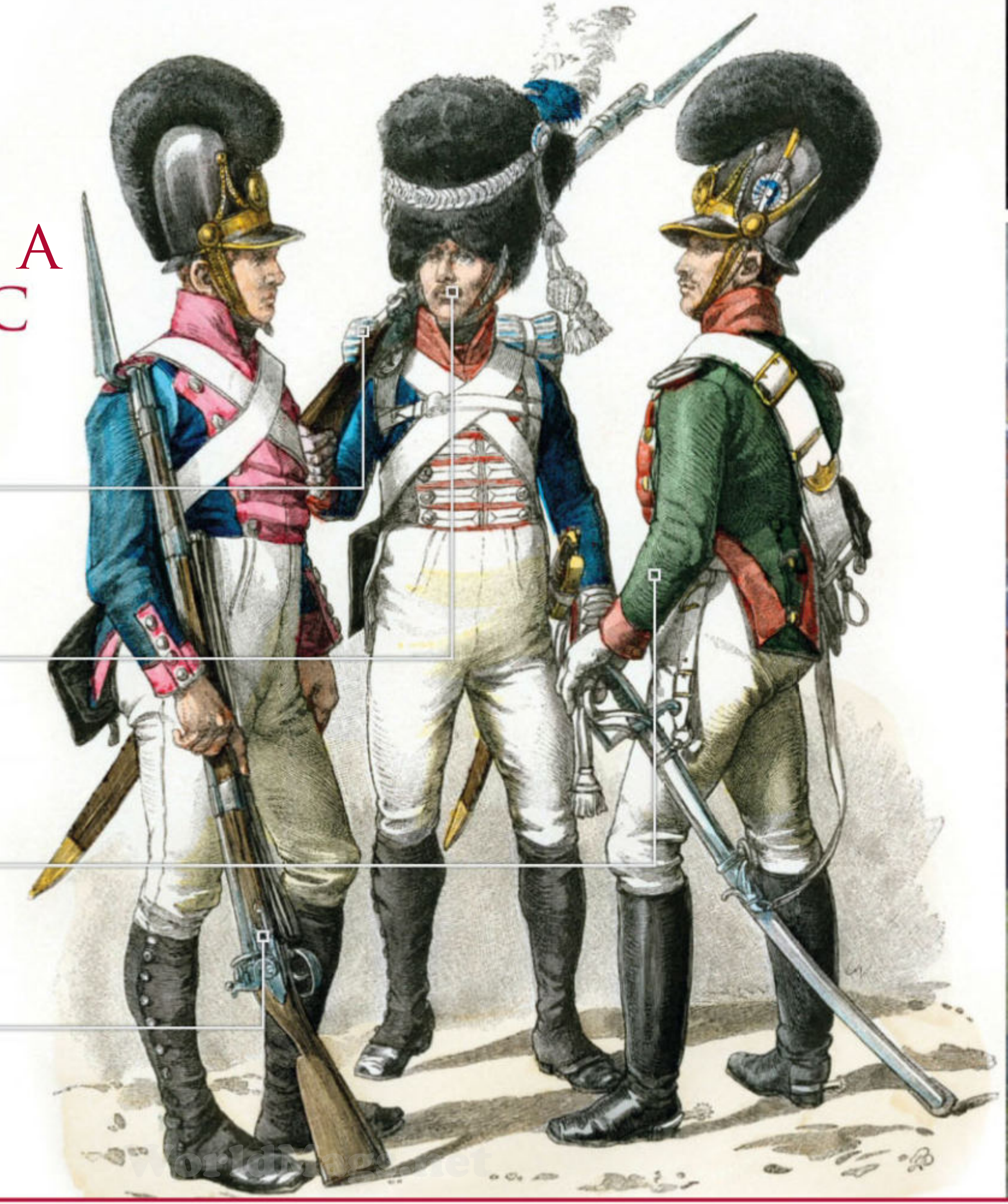
Despite his glorious return to power, the Napoleon who had clutched the world in his fist in 1805 was gone. The man of action, self-confidence and charisma had vanished. He was constantly asking for advice, several times he was found sobbing and even his body seemed broken. This was not a victor, this was a man who had felt the bitter pill of failure and betrayal - and he did not wish to taste it again. It is likely that Napoleon was anxious, and he had good reason to be, he knew very well what awaited him - the wrath of his

NAPOLEON MYTHS BUSTED

He was a warlord

Napoleon was a military man, but what he longed for was a unified, peaceful Europe. As well as being a dictator, he was a reformer who established France's legal code, and a supporter of liberty and equality.

ANATOMY OF A NAPOLEONIC SOLDIER



Knapsack

Made from tanned calfskin, the standard soldier would carry a bag that weighed between 15-20kg. It would be filled with spare cartridges, shoes, shirts, trousers, polishing brushes, biscuits and a variety of personal items.

Facial hair

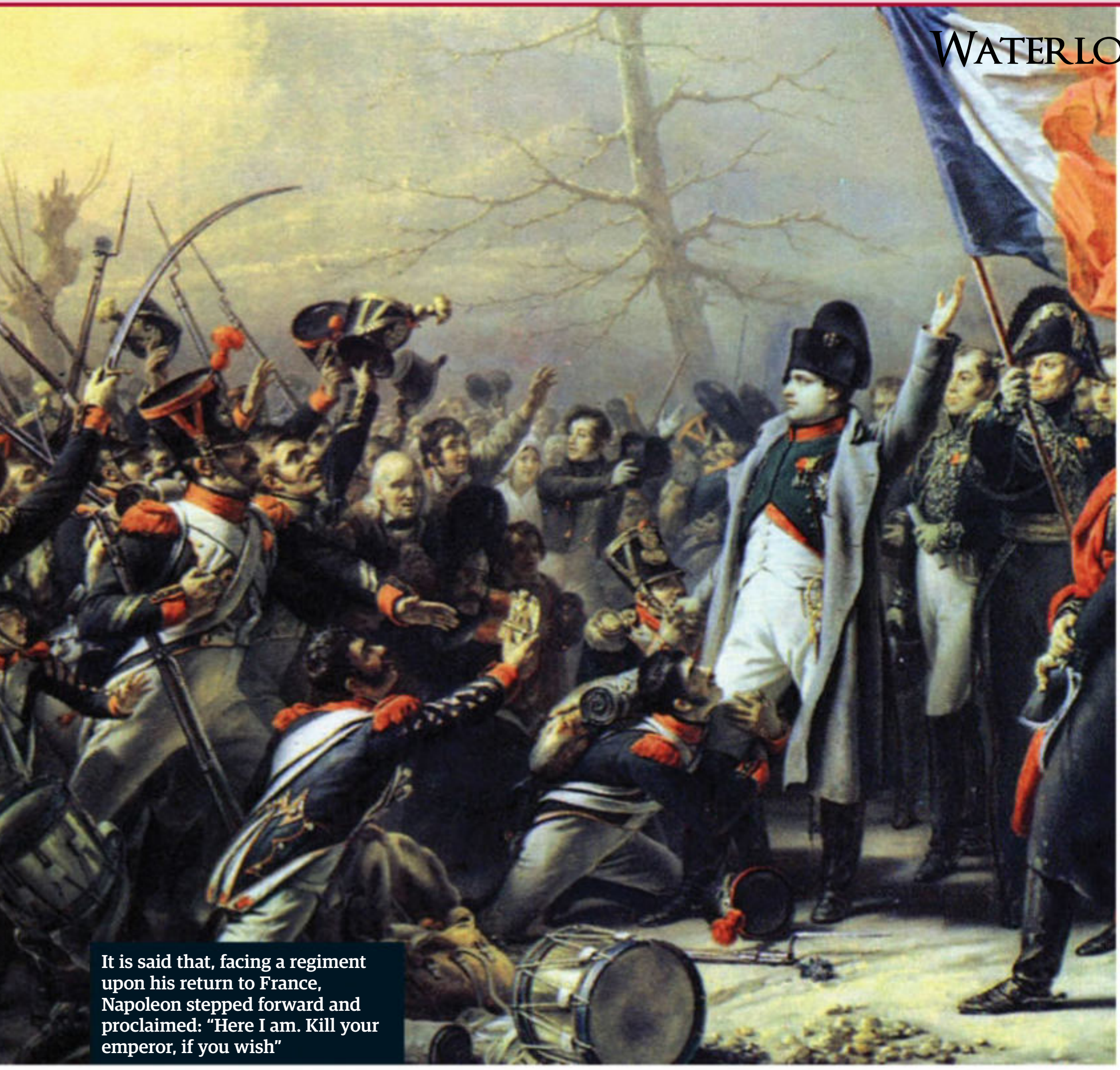
There were strict rules regarding facial hair in the Grande Armée. Hussars were required to grow beards, grenadiers had to have large moustaches and it was mandatory for chasseurs to sport goatees.

Elaborate uniforms

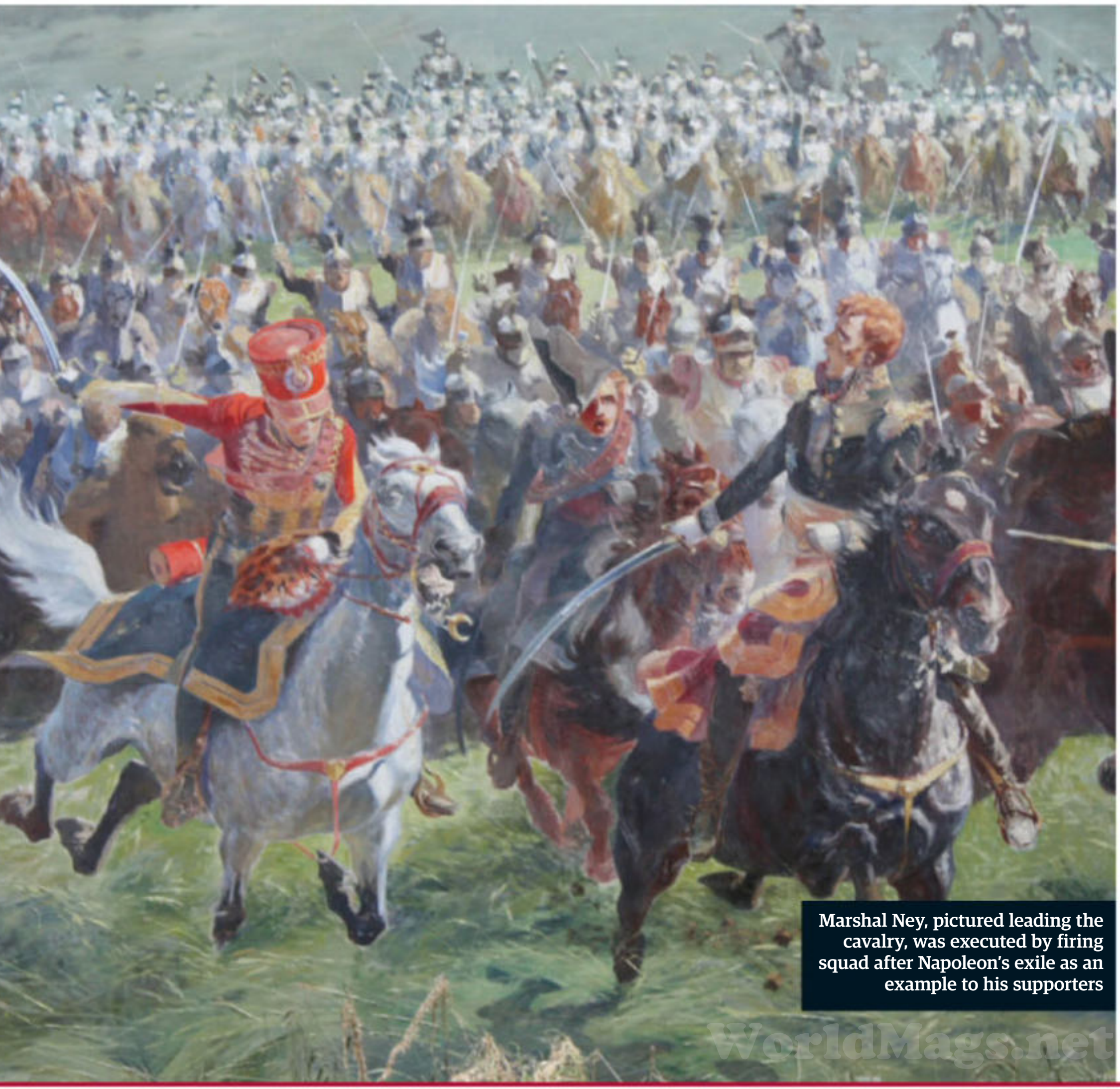
A huge amount of money was spent on French uniforms, producing a stunning display of pomp and luxury. Pompoms, plumes and cords gave an air of military splendour that matched the charisma of their emperor. An infantryman's uniform would cost between 200 and 250 francs, while a cuirassier's could be as much as 2,000.

Weapons

Infantrymen would be armed with a 1777 Charleville musket with a bayonet. They would also carry a black leather cartridge box on a white shoulder belt that held about 35 rounds of ammunition.



It is said that, facing a regiment upon his return to France, Napoleon stepped forward and proclaimed: "Here I am. Kill your emperor, if you wish"



Marshal Ney, pictured leading the cavalry, was executed by firing squad after Napoleon's exile as an example to his supporters

HERO TO ZERO

The battles that marked Napoleon's epic rise and disastrous fall

Battle of Austerlitz

2 December 1805

Also known as the Battle of the Three Emperors, Austerlitz sees Napoleon facing the armies of Tsar Alexander I of Russia and Holy Roman Emperor Francis II. Napoleon's tactical genius during the battle is virtually unparalleled and leads his smaller force to a definite and crushing victory. The victory brings an end to the War of the Third Coalition, leads to the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire and paves the way for French domination of Europe.

Battle of Rivoli

14-15 January 1797

Part of Napoleon's campaign in Italy, his force of 23,000 easily defeat an Austrian force of 28,000. Using his military genius, Napoleon is able to take advantage of his enemy's mistakes and destroys the opposing army. Widely upheld as his greatest victory at the time, his success allows the French to go on and take northern Italy.

Battle of Dresden

26-27 August 1813

Outnumbered as usual, the Battle of Dresden pits 135,000 French Empire troops against a combined force of 214,000 Austrian, Prussian and Russian troops. Initially the French forces positioned in Dresden struggle to hold the city, but when Napoleon arrives, the battle is turned on its head and victory is snatched from defeat. However, Napoleon's failure to follow up on the success of this battle will cost him dearly.

Battle of Leipzig

16-19 October 1813

The largest European battle before World War I, Leipzig is the climax of Napoleon's 1813 German Campaign. Napoleon experiences his first decisive defeat at the hands of the allied troops and is forced to return to France with a tarnished reputation. The defeat at Leipzig marks the end of the French Empire east of the Rhine and in less than a year, the emperor will be forced to abdicate his throne.

Battle of Trafalgar

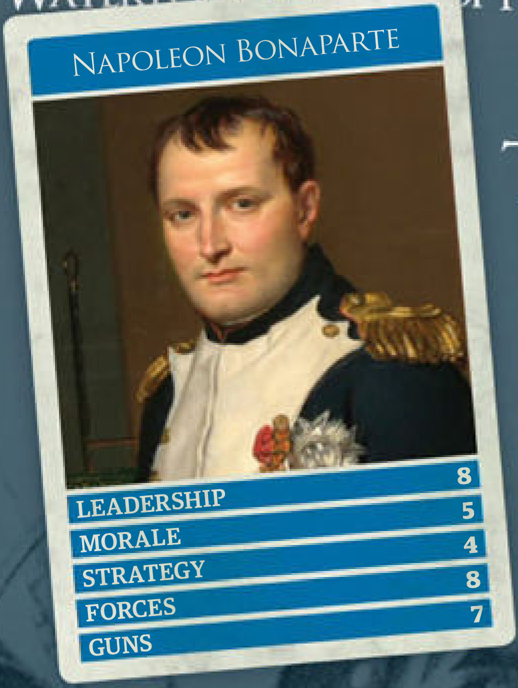
21 October 1805

A combined fleet of French and Spanish ships face the might of the English Navy during the war of the Third Coalition. Despite having the greater fleet numerically, Napoleon's forces are destroyed by the British. This victory assures English naval supremacy and although Napoleon is far from defeated at this point, it puts in motion the series of failures that will lead to Napoleon's final fall.

THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

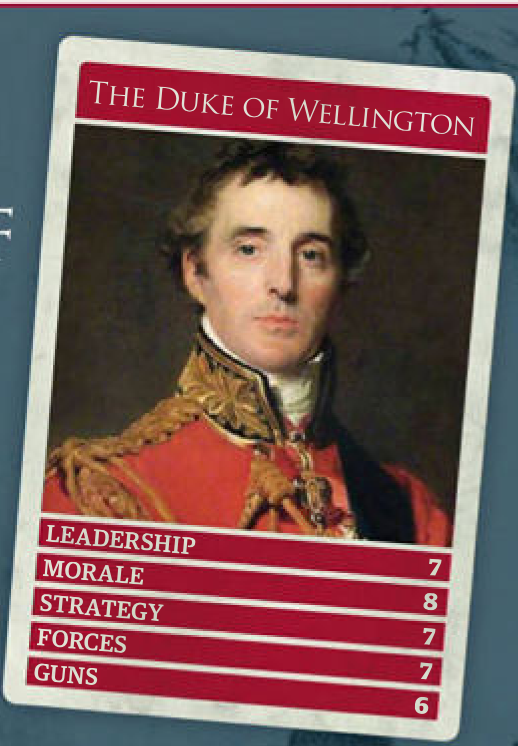
BELGIUM 18 JUNE 1815

After fighting back the advancing Prussians, it was time for Napoleon to face the might of Wellington's troops. With 72,000 French men meeting 68,000 allies, the emperor found himself better equipped, but the coalition was better positioned. The sun rose to reveal the fields deluged; it was time for Napoleon to put his famous tactical genius to the test.



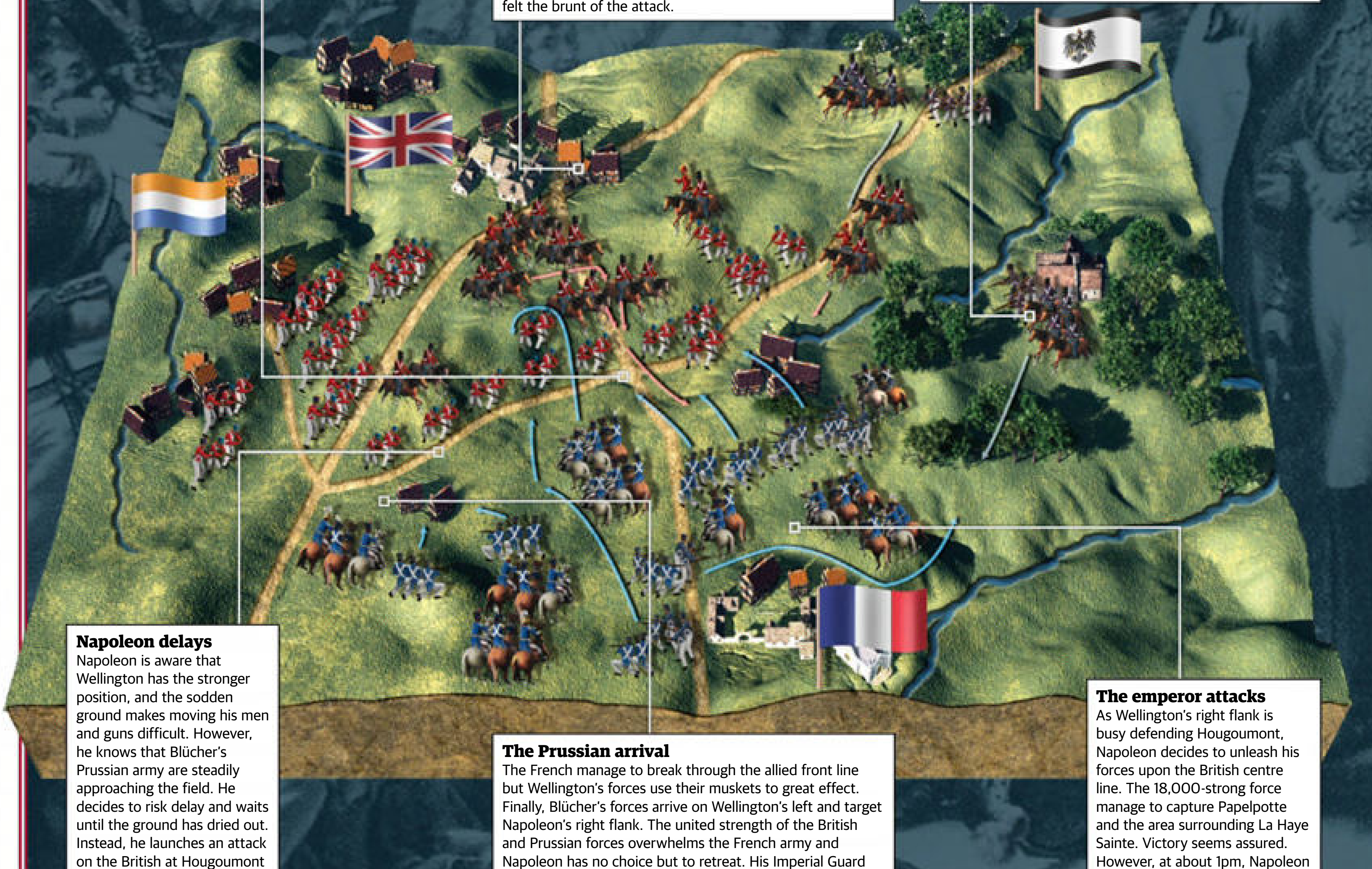
NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

LEADERSHIP	8
MORALE	5
STRATEGY	4
FORCES	8
GUNS	7



THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON

LEADERSHIP	7
MORALE	8
STRATEGY	7
FORCES	7
GUNS	6



La Haye Sainte falls
For hours, waves of ferocious French soldiers attack Wellington's stronghold of La Haye Sainte. Finally, at about 6pm, they are victorious, though the cost is heavy in both French and British lives. With his new position, Napoleon is able to use artillery to attack the British centre.

Wellington struggles
Although the Prussians are approaching, they are still a good while away and Wellington struggles to drive back the French from the crucial farmhouse of La Haye Sainte. The British cavalry charge into the advancing French infantry – the effect is disastrous for the French forces, which are substantially weakened, but Wellington's left line has also felt the brunt of the attack.

Battle on two fronts
At about 3.30pm Napoleon's troops finally meet Blücher's Prussians five miles east of the main fighting. Yet again Napoleon's troops are at a tactical disadvantage as the Prussians have the high ground. As the fighting intensifies, Napoleon is forced to commit more men to the Prussian battle, significantly stretching his forces.

Napoleon delays
Napoleon is aware that Wellington has the stronger position, and the sodden ground makes moving his men and guns difficult. However, he knows that Blücher's Prussian army are steadily approaching the field. He decides to risk delay and waits until the ground has dried out. Instead, he launches an attack on the British at Hougoumont farm to make a dent in Wellington's steely defence.

The Prussian arrival
The French manage to break through the allied front line but Wellington's forces use their muskets to great effect. Finally, Blücher's forces arrive on Wellington's left and target Napoleon's right flank. The united strength of the British and Prussian forces overwhelms the French army and Napoleon has no choice but to retreat. His Imperial Guard are so loyal that they sacrifice themselves to give their emperor a chance to escape unharmed.

The emperor attacks
As Wellington's right flank is busy defending Hougoumont, Napoleon decides to unleash his forces upon the British centre line. The 18,000-strong force manage to capture Papelpotte and the area surrounding La Haye Sainte. Victory seems assured. However, at about 1pm, Napoleon notices movement in the east. It is the Prussians.

enemies and war. He had no option but to defend his throne again, else it be seized from beneath him before it was barely warm.

Napoleon was not in the state for war, neither mentally nor physically, but he knew if he didn't act first then defeat was inevitable. He had to strike the English and Prussians in the north, then turn towards the Austrian and Russian forces in Germany before they had time to increase their numbers. With an army comprising a mishmash of inexperienced young recruits and seasoned warriors, Napoleon first struck the Prussians, led by Blücher, and managed to deal a great amount of damage. But crucially, he failed to take advantage of his victory and the Prussians escaped - a mistake he would live to regret. However, for now, Napoleon turned his sights towards the combined British, German and Dutch troops positioned at Waterloo, and commanded by the Duke of Wellington.

Numerically, Napoleon had the advantage. He had wanted to strike before the British had time to build their numbers, and this he did - 72,000 French troops and 246 cannons faced 68,000 allied men with 157 cannons. However, Napoleon, who had so often won battles where the numerical odds were against him, was well aware this was no assurance of victory. What would really matter were the armies' positions, and the weather. It was with the latter particularly that he was extensively unlucky. The previous night there had been a downfall so torrential that the field had been reduced to a swamp of thick, knee-deep mud. Victor Hugo would later claim that this rain "sufficed for the overthrow of the world," and it certainly affected Napoleon's plans as he struggled to get his guns to the appropriate positions.

Napoleon delayed for as long as he could. He rode among the troops, enthusing his men with long speeches, hoping that just an hour more would allow the ground to dry out. However, with Blücher's Prussian army on their way, he was aware of the need to time this delay perfectly. At either 10am or 11.30am (sources differ), Napoleon began the battle, attacking the British at a large farmhouse called Hougoumont. Claiming possession of this and another farmhouse, La Haye Sainte, was key, as they would allow the French to attack Wellington's main line unopposed.

The fighting at Hougoumont was fierce and frenzied. A French officer had managed to push his way through and break down the gate with an axe; French soldiers streamed in, but the allies closed the gate and slaughtered all who had entered. The fighting continued at Hougoumont for hours. Napoleon sent 14,000 troops into the mad fray, and towards the end the building was even set alight, but the coalition managed to hold out. Wellington would later comment: "The success of the battle turned upon closing the gates at Hougoumont."

NAPOLEON MYTHS BUSTED

The British hated him

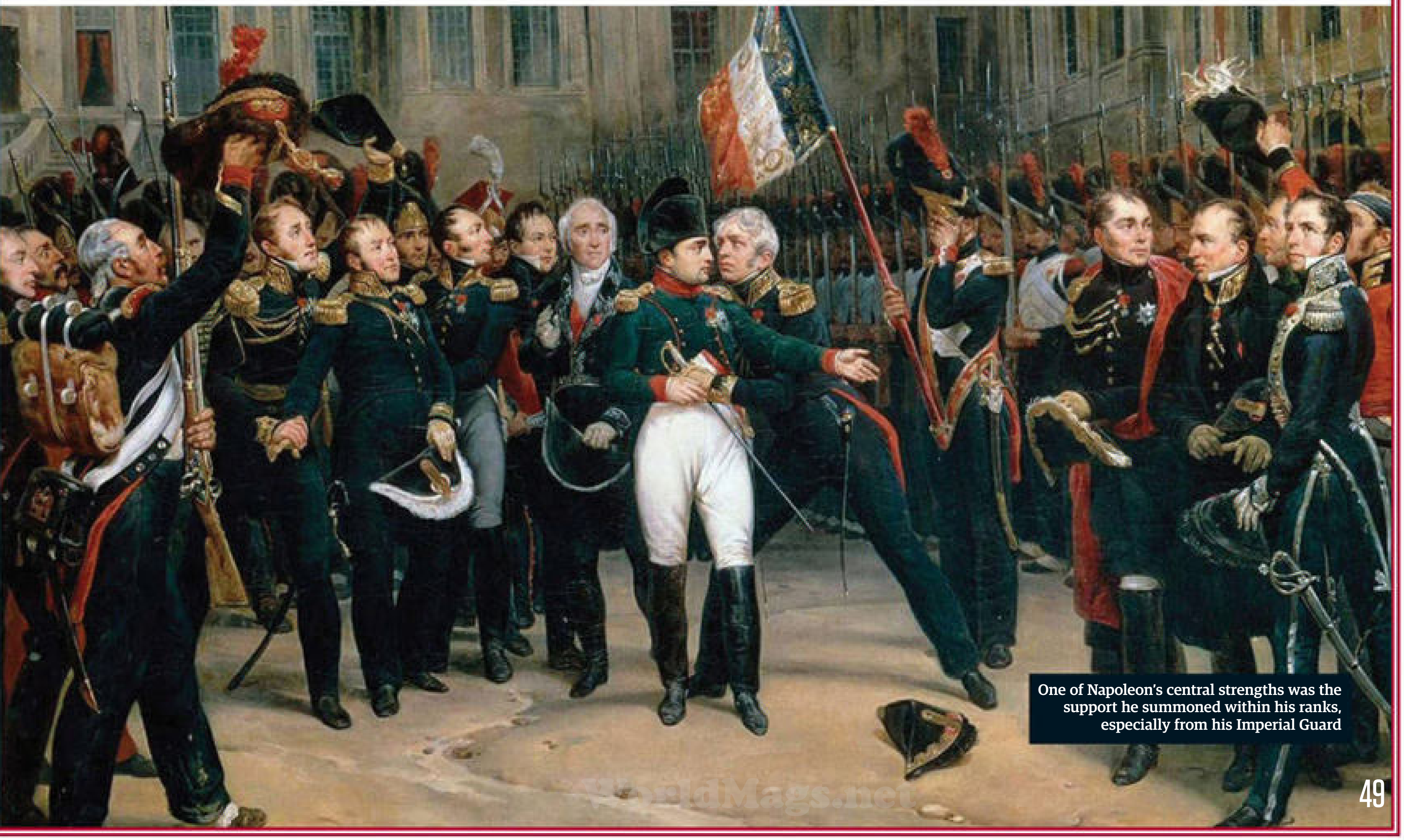
This is not entirely true, as there was a strong current of British thought that supported him, and the government were so fearful of an uprising that they refused to allow Napoleon on British soil before his exile.

Napoleon turned his attention to the Anglo-allied centre. He commanded the Grand Battery to fire at Wellington's position. Although many allied lives were saved by the men simply lying down on the slopes, the fierce and devastating cannon fire struck a much-needed dent in Wellington's defence. Napoleon finally seemed to be gaining an advantage, but then the Prussians were sighted.

The black-clad figures emerged en masse from the woods at the east of the battlefield; they were heading for Napoleon's right flank.

The emperor now knew that timing would determine everything, so at 1.30pm he launched what he hoped would be a final and devastating artillery assault at the left centre of the allied line. However, his troops had to traverse uneven, muddy ground against relentless British cannon fire and the losses were heavy. Nevertheless, the French managed to push through the allied lines and climbed the slope towards the crucial La Haye Sainte farmhouse. If it was captured, Napoleon would be able to attack the British forces at close range and victory would be within his grasp.

Wellington, seeing his infantry about to buckle, sent a swift and brutal cavalry charge that sliced through the French infantry. This dealt a great amount of damage to Napoleon's forces, but it also

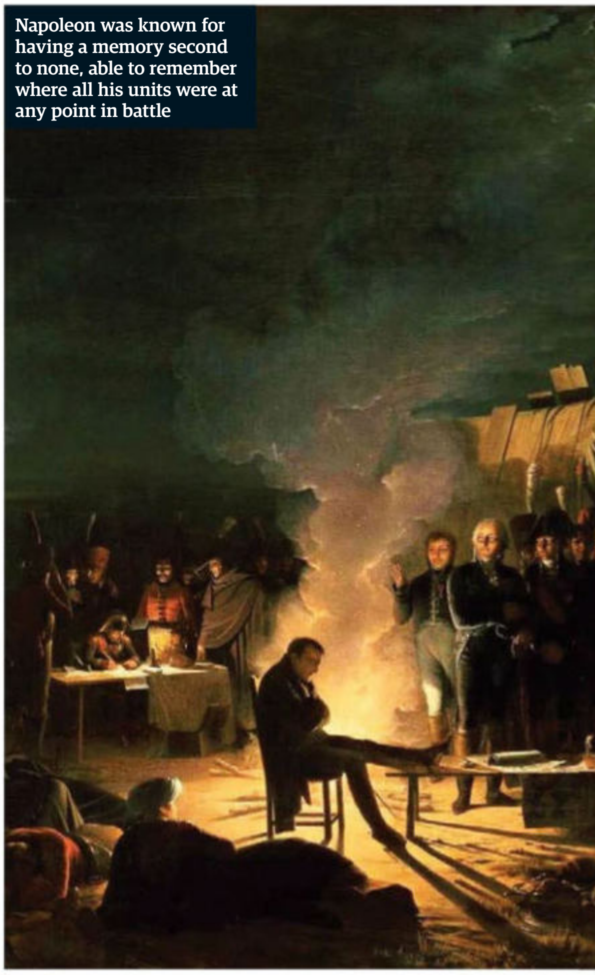


One of Napoleon's central strengths was the support he summoned within his ranks, especially from his Imperial Guard

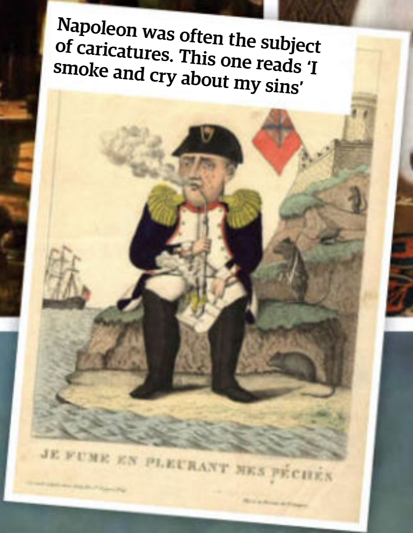
Napoleon's tomb has pride of place in Les Invalides

THE EMPEROR'S LEGACY

Napoleon's legacy had already begun even before he passed away, and he sharply divided opinion the world over as soon as his conquests began. For his supporters, he was a force of justice, spreading the French values of freedom and liberty with the ultimate goal of peace and national unification. This continues today; Napoleon's policies created the basis for a legal system used worldwide, allowing freedom of religion and judging on merit rather than birth. However, there are those who disagree. Although beginning with good intentions, many believe he was driven by selfish ambitions that resulted in the loss of millions of lives. The 200th anniversary of his victory of Austerlitz was not officially celebrated in France and the emperor is far from a national hero, such as the likes of Charles de Gaulle. However, it is important to note that he is also not regarded as a merciless dictator – evident in how many monuments bear his name throughout France as well as his place of rest, Les Invalides, which is one of the most opulent buildings in the capital. The discussion of whether Le Petit Caporal was a liberator or tyrant seems set to continue, but both sides do agree on something – his immense impact upon Europe is still being felt today.

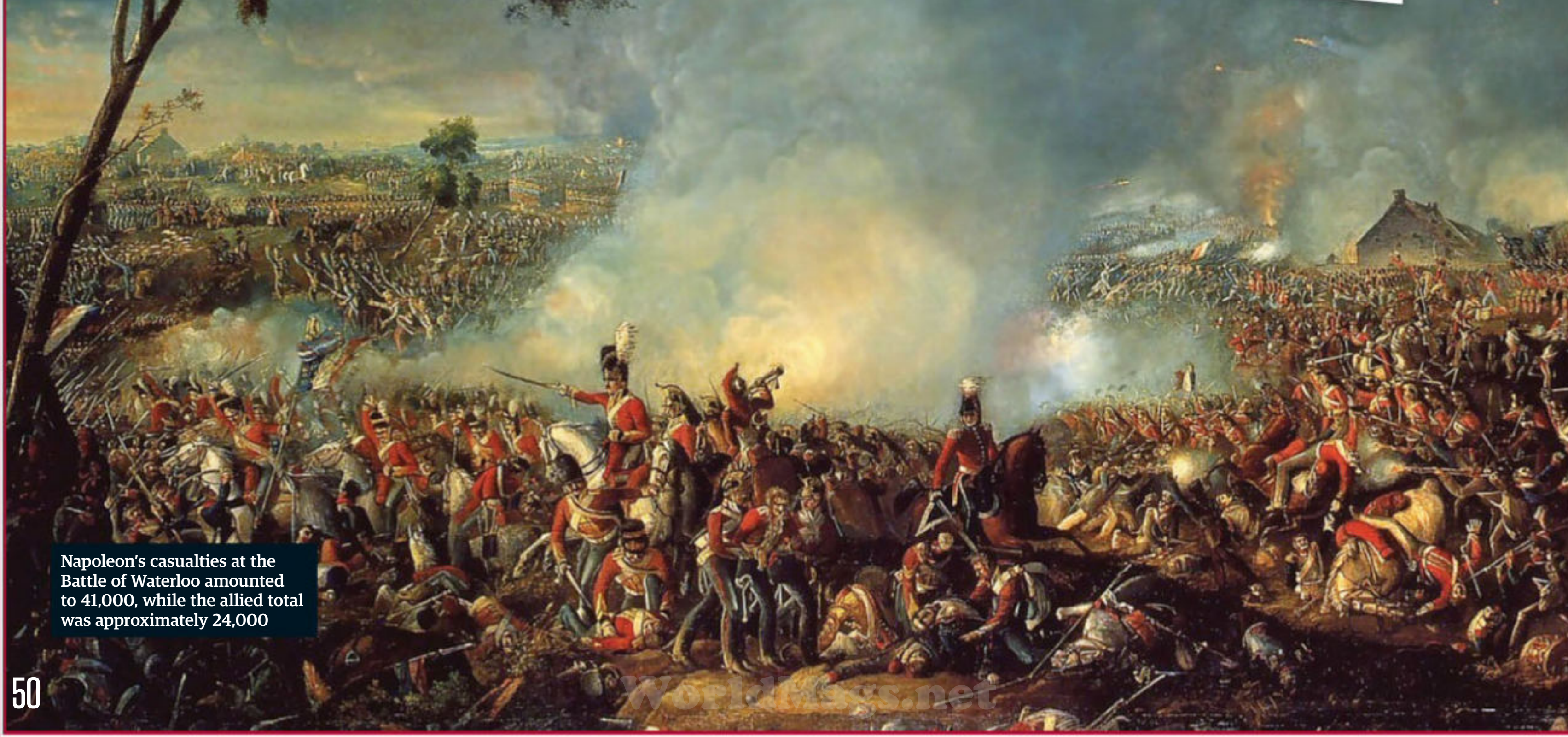


Napoleon was known for having a memory second to none, able to remember where all his units were at any point in battle

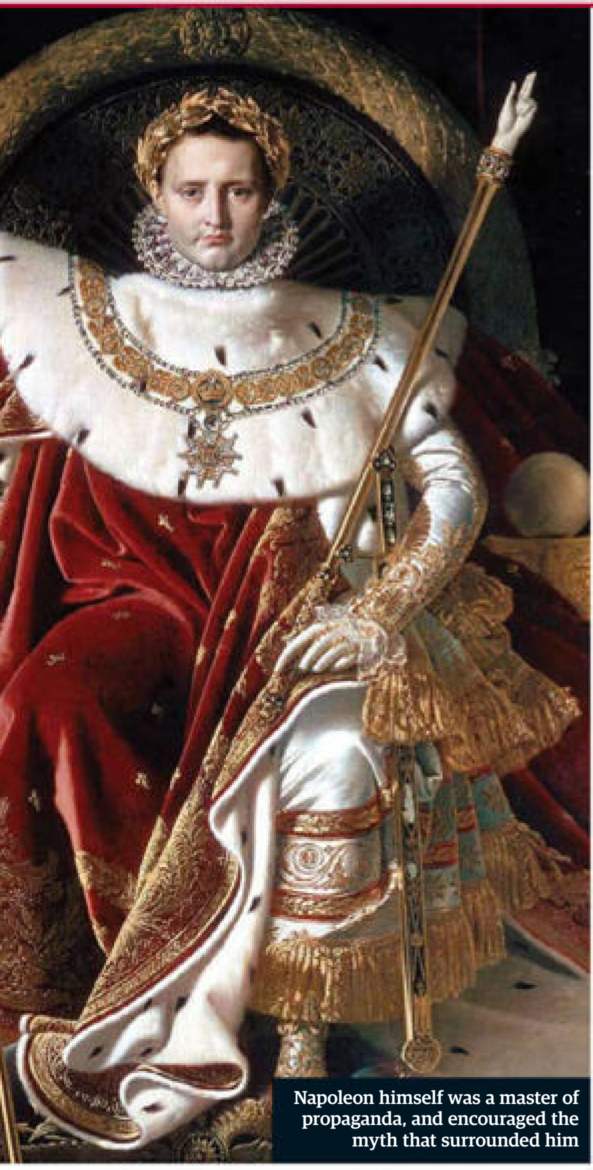


Napoleon was often the subject of caricatures. This one reads 'I smoke and cry about my sins'

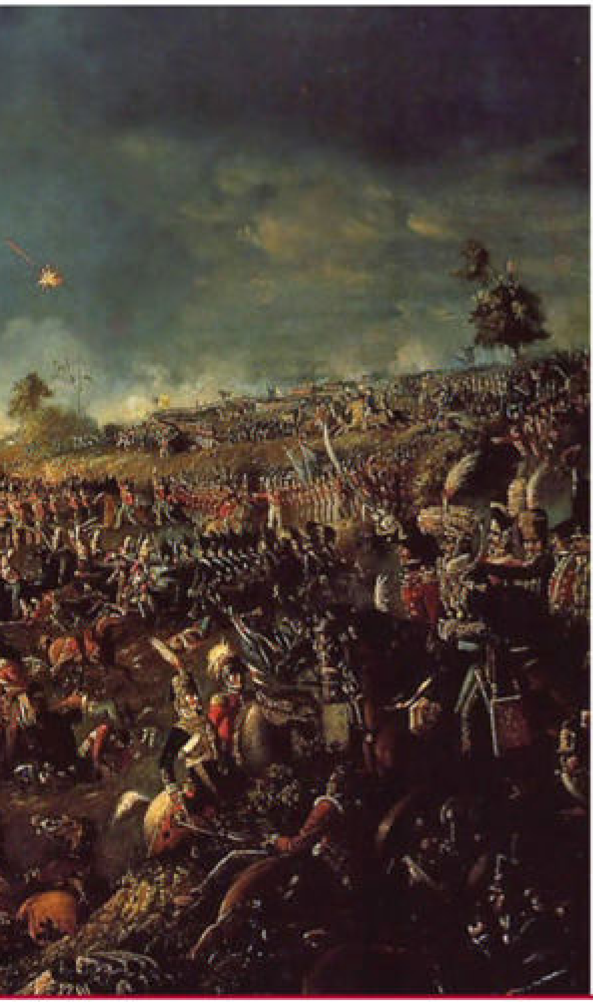
JE FUME EN PLEURANT MES PÉCHÉS



Napoleon's casualties at the Battle of Waterloo amounted to 41,000, while the allied total was approximately 24,000



Napoleon himself was a master of propaganda, and encouraged the myth that surrounded him



severely weakened Wellington's left flank. The duke needed reinforcements, and the Prussians were on their way. Napoleon knew that they were set to arrive at about 4.30pm. He had enough time then, at the lull that occurred at 3pm, to withdraw his forces and set up an appropriate defence for the oncoming attack. But Napoleon had never been, in all his battles, whether personal or on the battlefield, one to play it safe. He was a gambler. Instead of retreating, with the Prussians bearing down upon him, he ordered his men to do all that they could to capture the La Haye Sainte and ensure his victory.

The French threw everything they had at the allied lines. The Grand Battery pounded them with cannon fire and finally, between 6 and 6.30pm, the crucial farmhouse was in French possession. It seemed that Napoleon's gamble had paid off. Wellington's attempts to retake the stronghold were easily repulsed and French artillery was quickly brought forward to the crucial position near Wellington's central line.

Everything now hung on the Prussian reinforcements arriving on time. Wellington knew that without them, the battle was lost; so did Napoleon.

The emperor's men were stretched and tired. When Marshal Ney, commanding the army from the field, asked Napoleon for more troops to deliver the killing blow, he was said to have responded: "Troops! Where do you want me to get them from? Do you want me to make them?" In reality, Napoleon thought it was more important to prolong the Prussian arrival to the battle. The Prussians had been hammering the right flank of his army in an attempt to take the village of Plancenoit, and Napoleon knew that as long as the Prussians were engaged there, he would have more time to break Wellington's centre.

This is when Napoleon decided to unleash his trump card, the force that had repeatedly turned unwinnable battles in his favour – his Imperial Guard. Napoleon's 'Invincibles' were fresh faced and ready to fight. Wellington would later say that Napoleon's presence on the battlefield was worth 40,000 soldiers – Napoleon was about to put that to the test. He rode within 600 yards of Wellington's lines to encourage his troops and salute their cries of "vive l'empereur!" The battalions formed three lines, and with music playing, flags flying and saluting Napoleon as they passed, they came thundering out to meet the British central line.

Wellington's cannons were ready to receive them. At such close range huge holes were ripped in the French lines but the mighty guard rode on. They continued through fields covered with the bodies of their fallen allies. The sight was imposing, but Wellington's men were waiting for them in the long grass behind the ridge. As the French broke through the line, the allies leapt up and opened fire at point-blank range, devastating Napoleon's 'unbeatable' force. For the first time in the history of Napoleon's Grande Armée, the cry of "the guard is retreating!" rang through the field. The guard, Napoleon's ace in the hole, had been defeated.

The effect was instant. The French hurried to escape the field and Wellington threw his forces upon the retreating soldiers. Around the same time the Prussians had managed to recapture Plancenoit, and the Old Guard, who had been supporting the French position there, joined the mass of troops retreating in panic. What began as a defeat turned into a rout as the Prussian forces joined the fray, lancing retreating Frenchmen in the back as retribution for the devastation they had felt at the hands of the French Empire. Knowing all was lost, Napoleon made an attempt to plunge himself into the heart of enemy fire, but was prevented from doing so. Embittered, broken and defeated, Napoleon was spotted the next morning by one of his officers, standing near a fire, with tears streaming down his face.

Napoleon had plenty of opportunity to rally his troops to fight again. He had, after all, 117,000 men in his control in the north – but he did nothing. Battles were fought and won by France, but not by Napoleon. Perhaps then he had realised the ultimate truth – he could win as many battles as he liked, but he could not win the war. The united allied forces were too strong; his own position in Paris too precarious. The campaign, he realised, was lost before it even began. When Napoleon returned to Paris in the early hours of 21 June, he was warned that he was safer to remain with the army, but he bitterly replied: "The blow I have received is mortal." He dully asked for a meeting to build another army to save the country. When this was denied, his response was nothing but alarming laughter. The chamber of representatives, perhaps still a little wary of Napoleon's hold over his followers, invited him to abdicate. Refusal, they told him, would mean deposition. Napoleon abdicated for the second and final time the following day.

After he learned of the Prussians' plans to capture him dead or alive, Napoleon fled the city and considered escaping to the United States. However, this plan proved impossible and instead Napoleon, clearly now a desperate man, sought asylum from his long-time enemies, the British. They responded by placing him on the island of Saint Helena. Although he was still accompanied by a band of loyal followers, his exile marked the end of Napoleon's leadership. He was forced to live out his remaining days in the decrepit and damp conditions of Longwood House. Within six years he was dead. Although his passing marked the end of the conquests that had shaken the foundations of the earth, it was the beginning of a legacy that still burns strongly to this day.

NAPOLEON MYTHS BUSTED

He took a step back in battle

Napoleon was involved in all aspects of battles – he devised plans and directed attacks. He kept good relations with army units and referred to officers and many soldiers by name, inspiring great loyalty from troops.

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1930s New York, with the Manhattan Bridge in the background

What was it like?

NEW YORK, 1933

New York
USA

After the prosperity of the 1920s, the USA found itself spiralling into a pit of debt and despair as it entered the 1930s

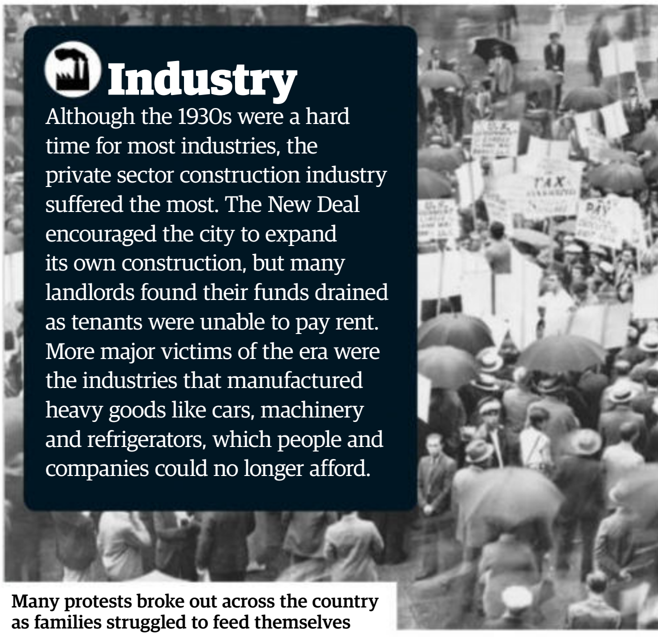
In the 1920s, the USA experienced a boom that earned the decade the name 'the roaring 20s'. In those days of glitz and glamour, national spirit and optimism were at an all time high; the impossible seemed possible. But this came crashing down in 1929 when the stock market underwent a disastrous collapse.

The dramatic economic fallout from the crash well and truly drew the curtain on the hopeful prosperity of the 1920s and plunged the country into its most crippling economic depression in history. While unemployment in 1929 was at just three per cent, by 1933 it had risen to a huge 25 per cent. The president Herbert Hoover had wrongly believed that the crisis would quickly run its course, and the little amount the government did to combat the depression only resulted in the situation worsening.

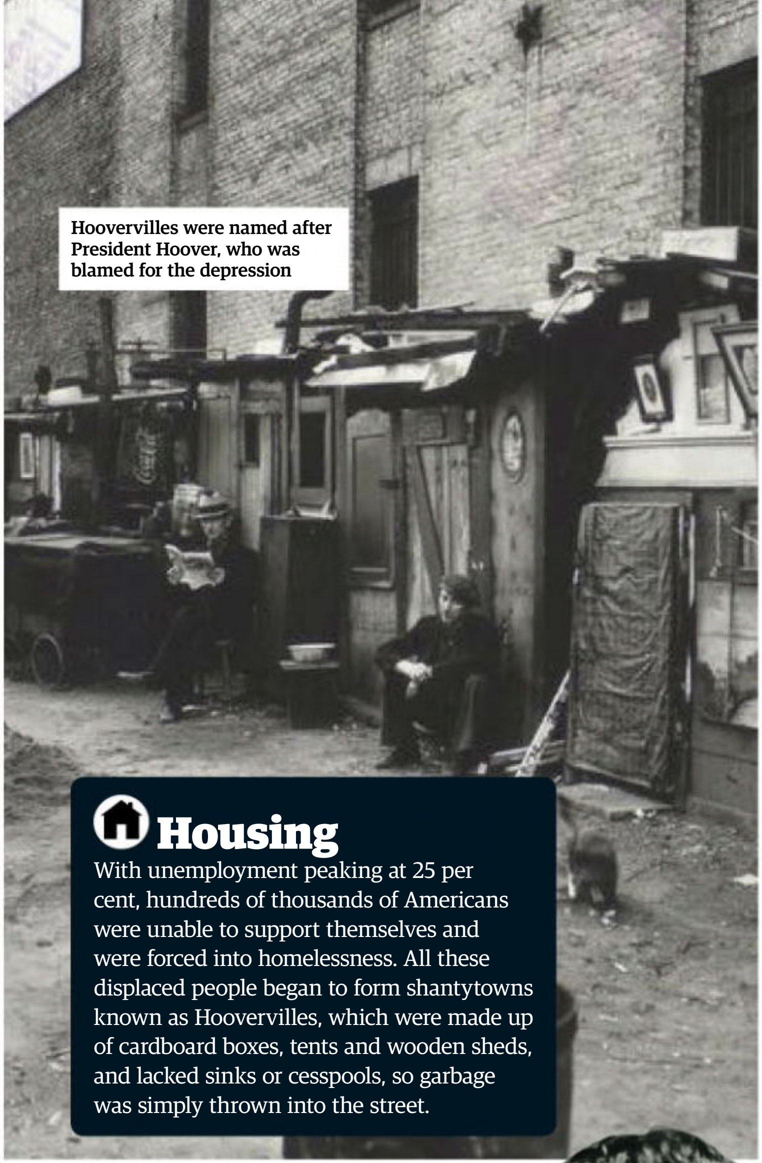
Soon there was mass homelessness; New York City transformed from an urban metropolis to a mass of shantytowns and soup kitchens. Men struggling to provide for their families tried to scrape pennies together by selling apples on street corners, and the city that had once attracted people from far and wide was now driving them out. Immigrants and even US citizens poured out of the city, desperate to find jobs and food anywhere else.

Industry

Although the 1930s were a hard time for most industries, the private sector construction industry suffered the most. The New Deal encouraged the city to expand its own construction, but many landlords found their funds drained as tenants were unable to pay rent. More major victims of the era were the industries that manufactured heavy goods like cars, machinery and refrigerators, which people and companies could no longer afford.



Many protests broke out across the country as families struggled to feed themselves



Hoovervilles were named after President Hoover, who was blamed for the depression

Housing

With unemployment peaking at 25 per cent, hundreds of thousands of Americans were unable to support themselves and were forced into homelessness. All these displaced people began to form shantytowns known as Hoovervilles, which were made up of cardboard boxes, tents and wooden sheds, and lacked sinks or cesspools, so garbage was simply thrown into the street.

BUY
APPLES
5 EACH

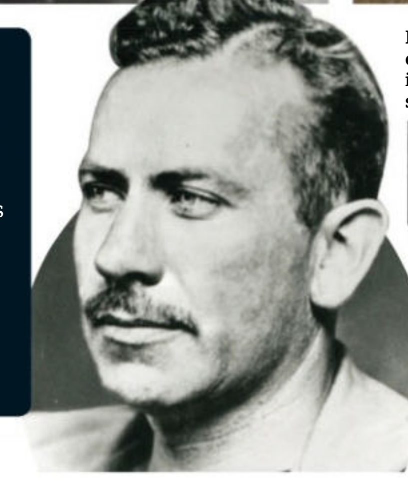
Unemployed New Yorkers were put to work selling apples on the street

Families

Not only were penniless couples forced to delay marriages they couldn't afford, but the divorce rate also dropped as people were unable to pay legal fees. Traditional roles in the family were challenged as women found it easier to find work and became the primary breadwinners. Many frustrated men abandoned their families, and some 1.5 million women were left to support their children alone.

Art

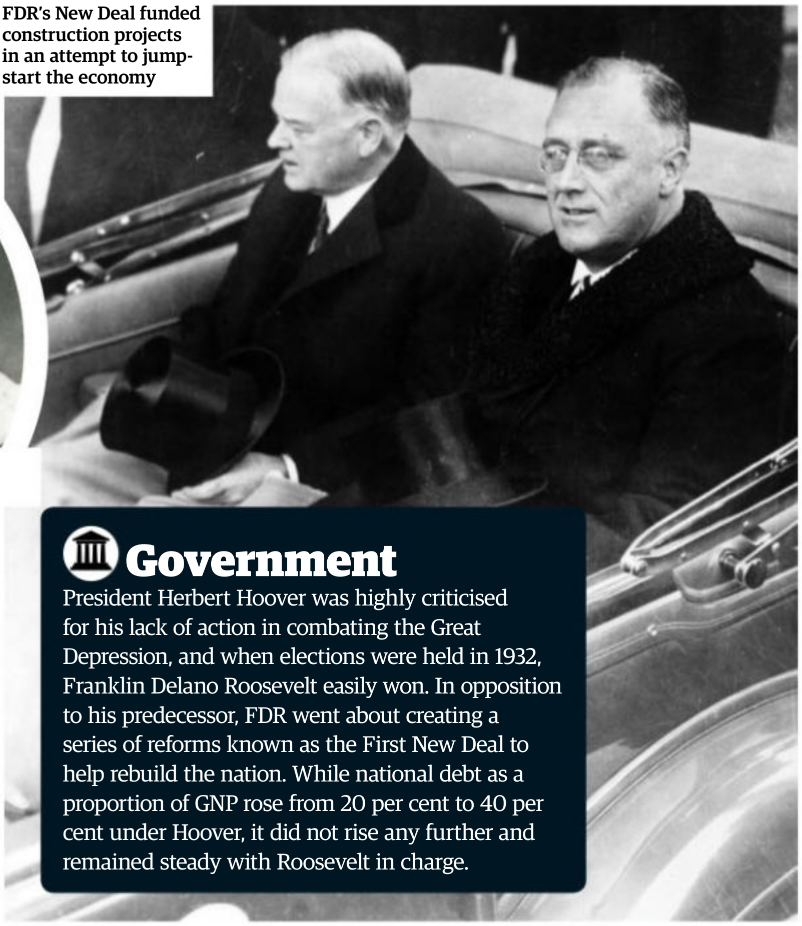
The Great Depression inspired a number of American writers to pen some of the most celebrated novels of all time, such as John Steinbeck's *The Grapes Of Wrath* and *Of Mice And Men*. The writers of the period were able to start their careers thanks to the Federal Writers' Project – a relief art program introduced in 1935.



Many of John Steinbeck's novels centred on working class people during the depression

Media

While many were unable to spare money for entertainment, films were still a well-liked pastime. Comedies and gangster flicks that distracted from everyday hardships were especially successful. Because it was free, listening to radio broadcasts was a very popular pastime with soap operas, sporting events and swing music all gaining popularity.



FDR's New Deal funded construction projects in an attempt to jump-start the economy

Government

President Herbert Hoover was highly criticised for his lack of action in combating the Great Depression, and when elections were held in 1932, Franklin Delano Roosevelt easily won. In opposition to his predecessor, FDR went about creating a series of reforms known as the First New Deal to help rebuild the nation. While national debt as a proportion of GNP rose from 20 per cent to 40 per cent under Hoover, it did not rise any further and remained steady with Roosevelt in charge.

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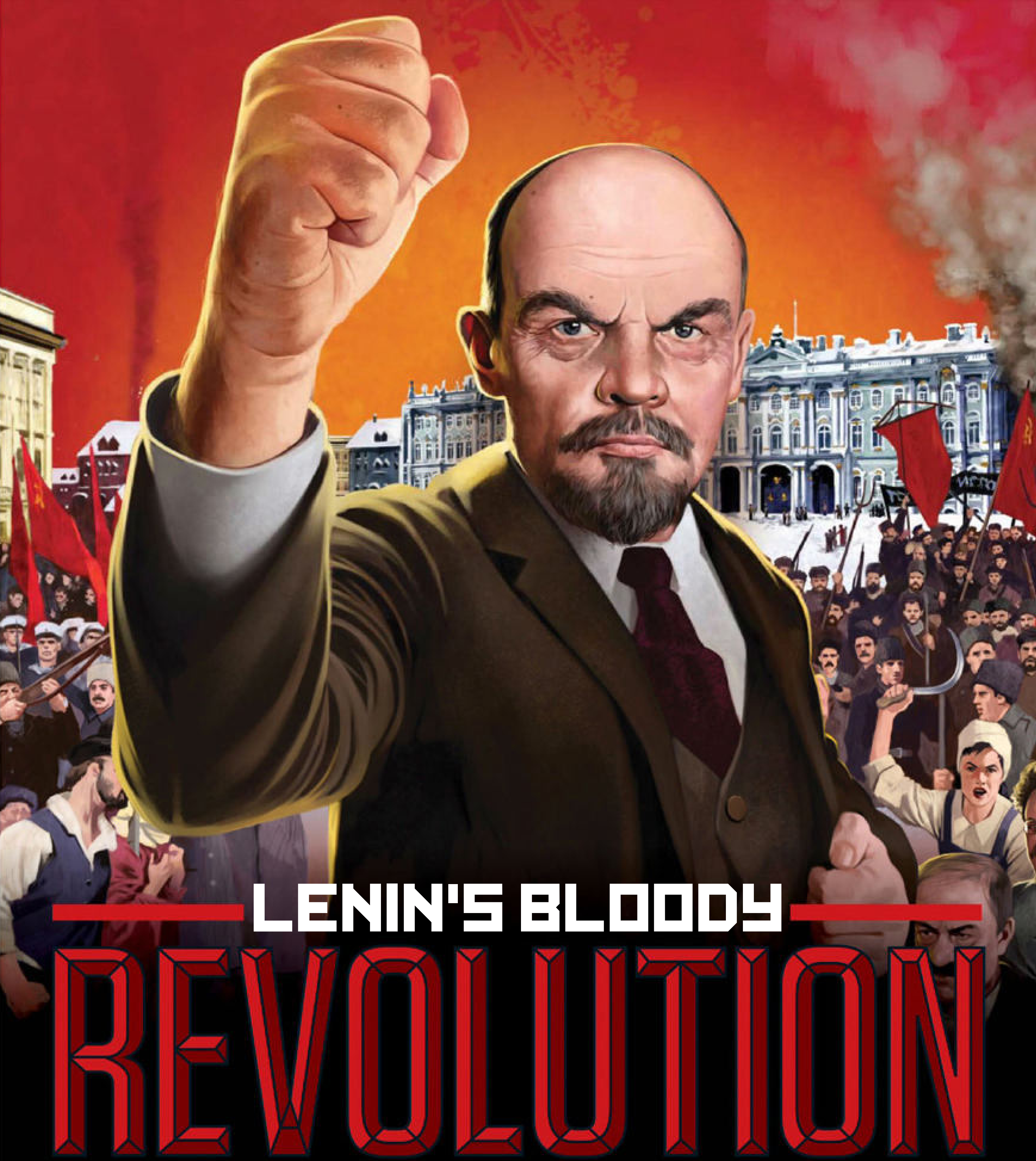


LENIN'S BLOODY REVOLUTION

Years of civil unrest came to a head in October 1917, as Lenin rode a revolutionary wave into Saint Petersburg and turned society upside down

Written by Owen Williams

THE ROAD TO REVOLUTION

May 1896
Nicholas II is crowned tsar, making clear he'll continue the autocratic rule of Alexander III.

July 1903
The Russian Social Democrat party splits into two factions: the Bolsheviks, under Lenin, and the Mensheviks.

January 1905
Tsarist troops open fire on demonstrators in Saint Petersburg, causing widespread strikes. June sees a mutiny aboard Battleship Potemkin.

October 1905
Nicholas II ends the unrest by promising increased civil liberties for the proletariat. The Duma is formed.

July 1914
At the outbreak of war, Nicholas II assumes control of the Russian Army. His family come under the damaging influence of Rasputin.

February 1917
Protests turn to riots in Saint Petersburg. The city falls to insurgents; the Duma collapses into chaos.

March-April 1917
Nicholas II abdicates and the Provisional Government forms. Lenin returns and sets up a base in Saint Petersburg.

July 1917
Alexander Kerensky becomes prime minister of the government, but it remains largely powerless, lacking legitimisation.

October 1917
Bolsheviks take Saint Petersburg and storm the Winter Palace. Lenin controls Russia.

November 1917
In elections, the Bolsheviks lose. Clever politicking from Lenin sees his party hold onto and consolidate power.

Вулканъ
II. ГР.

Members of the Red Guard in October 1917

Guns roared, thousands of voices yelled from the streets in defiance, and on 23 October 1917, the massed supporters of Vladimir Lenin laid siege to Saint Petersburg's Winter Palace, the site of an ineffectual government, and the capstone event of a socialist revolution. For Lenin and his troops it was both a political and an ideological victory: the triumphant end to years of secretive theorising and plotting, many of them spent by Lenin in exile, before he returned to Russia to "liberate" his people. If the celebrations were short lived, the inversion of society to replace an autocracy with a socialist system was an extraordinary achievement.

Russia, even as late as the late-1800s, had seen a nobility of about a million presiding over a peasantry of 97 million; according to an 1897 census there was practically no middle class. Industry was overwhelmingly agricultural, with the peasantry working on land that belonged to the rich minority. An act of 1861 turned some of this land over to communal peasant ownership, but the government had provided compensation to the landowners, and the peasant communes were now responsible for the repayment of this debt to the government. These payments were abolished in 1905, but until then, the peasants were as beholden to their communes as they had been to the landowners. The population was also steadily increasing, which meant there wasn't enough land to go around, leading to unrest. The oil and railway industry booms of the industrial revolution happened slower and later in Russia than in other parts of Europe, but when they arrived they started to create a growing middle class more inclined towards western-style capitalist business interests than had hitherto been the Russian norm. Workers migrated to industrial areas, but while some official monitoring nominally took place, the overcrowded slum conditions workers had to endure were appalling.

> "POPULISM WAS ABANDONED, AND IN ITS PLACE, THE IDEAS OF A POLITICAL ANALYST CALLED KARL MARX BEGAN TO FIND FAVOUR"

Russia at this time was presided over by the tsar, whose rule was propped up by the army, the police, the Russian Orthodox Church, the land-owning nobility and the bureaucracy. Alexander II (1855-81) had brought in some reforms, such as elective assemblies to represent peasant agricultural and industrial workers in local government. Alexander III (1881-94), however, began to roll back these changes, and Nicholas II, the last tsar of Russia, disappointed many by sticking to that hard line. He considered any notion of societal reform "a senseless dream" and let it be known that he was resolutely committed to the principle of autocracy.

As early as the 1860s various seeds of revolutionary thought were beginning to be sown. Movements like The Populists began musing on a future moving away from a monolithic state and more towards a country with a multiplicity of mutually supportive communes.

These idealistic notions hit something of a bump when students from the universities started taking the message out into the countryside and found the peasant agricultural labourers actually hostile to their ideas: thinking the students' well-intentioned notions ridiculous, lofty and unachievable. Populism was abandoned, and in its place, the ideas of a political analyst called Karl Marx began to find favour.

Marx was often frustrated at the way his followers simplified his complex writings and ran with them in directions he didn't approve of, but the key idea of his that people latched on to revolved around the control of the means of production. History, Marx believed, was a never-ending process of change in which particular social classes exploited the labour of everyone else and established dominance, only for their hegemony to become outmoded, after which they were naturally replaced by another up-and-coming class drawing power from unanticipated sources. They in turn would eventually be replaced for the same reasons, and so the cycle would continue.

By this process, the bourgeois (the middle class) in Russia would, according to the theory, replace the aristocracy, and only once that had happened would the proletariat (the working class) supersede the bourgeois in their own revolution. Rather than leaving these predicted

The Duma was instituted to represent the voices of working people in 1905. As Lenin launched his revolution, its seats were occupied as follows:

Trudoviks - 10 seats
The Labour Group or 'Trudoviks' were a breakaway from the Socialist Revolutionaries, since the SR had refused to participate in the Duma. They were a moderate socialist party (the name 'Trudovik' meaning 'labour') that grew out of small worker collectives.

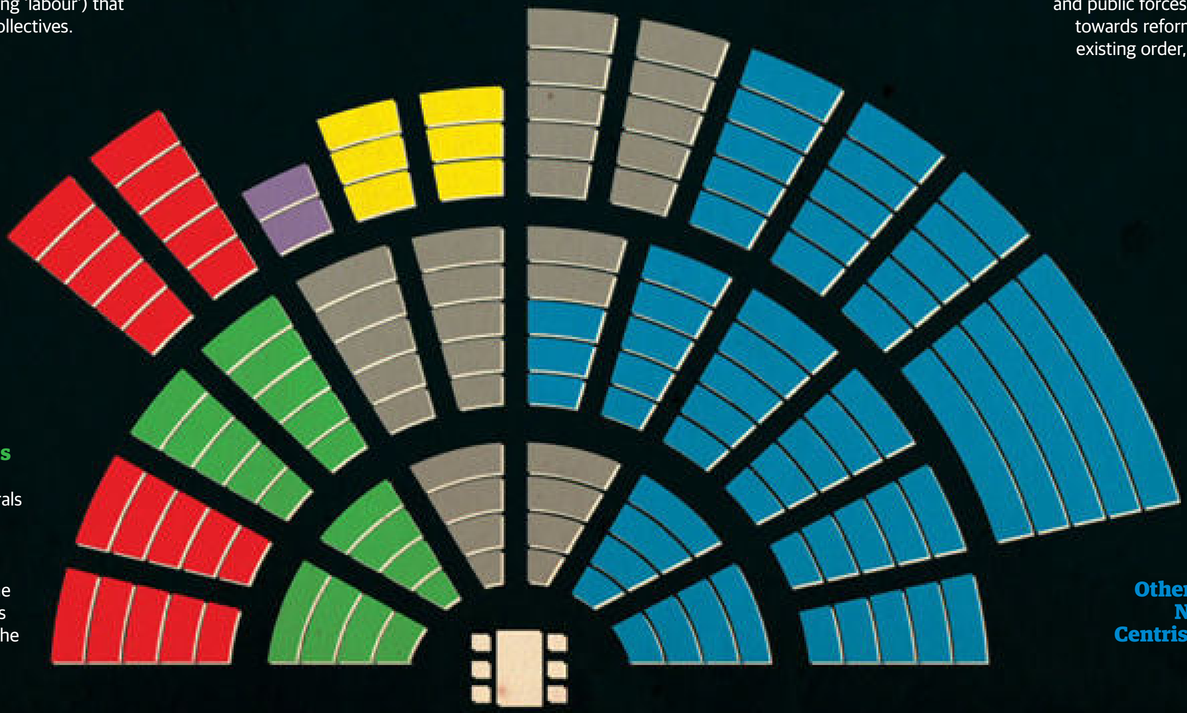
Bolsheviks - 15 seats
Lenin's faction of the Russian Social Democratic Party was committed to the overthrow of the Tsarist autocracy and the redistribution of power to the proletariat. Unlike the Mensheviks, the Bolsheviks still believed that a small ruling elite was necessary.

Progressists - 41 seats
The Progressive Party consisted of moderate liberals who believed the time was right for the bourgeois, not the proletariat, to assume control of Russia. Two of the party's prominent members would go on to be part of the Provisional Government.

Octobrists - 95 seats
The Union of October 17 was a non-revolutionary conservative liberal party looking for compromise and co-operation between the government and public forces. They were working towards reforms to strengthen the existing order, not to overthrow it.

Constitutional Democratic Party - 57 seats
Informally known as the 'Kadets', the Constitutional Democratic Party were liberals who had the support of professionals and academics. They were committed to workers' rights, through policies like the introduction of the eight-hour working day.

Others (Non-Russian National Groups, Centrists, Nationalists, Rightists) - 230



THE STATE DUMA

events to work themselves out in their own time, however, various groups intent on forcing the process started to come into existence. The Social Revolutionary movement grew out of Populism, still intent on establishing a vast mass of worker cooperatives. But the Russian Social Democrats were the ones that really ran with Marx's theories. Finding that they couldn't quite agree even among themselves, the Social Democrats soon split into two factions: the Bolsheviks (meaning 'the men of the majority') and the Mensheviks (meaning 'the men of the minority'). The key figure of the Mensheviks was Julius Tsederbaum, who would come to be known as Martov. Central to Bolshevism was Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov, later better known as Lenin. Martov believed in a grass-roots democracy where everyone had an equal voice. Lenin insisted on the necessity of a small intellectual elite controlling the revolution.

As it turned out, revolution first broke out organically in 1905 without either of them being directly responsible. On 9 January, a union of factory workers demonstrated outside the Winter Palace in Saint Petersburg and were fired on by the military, resulting in more than 100 deaths. A general strike followed; several officials were assassinated, including Tsar Nicholas II's uncle Grand Duke Sergei, the governor-general of Moscow; peasant revolts broke out in various provinces; and the crew of the Battleship Potemkin mutinied. Tsar Nicholas was persuaded into the concession of forming a national parliament. This was divided into two houses, the Council of State (the upper house) and the Duma (the lower house), which would give the proletariat a represented, elected voice. But Nicholas stopped short of actually giving the Duma any power: its role, controversially, was to be purely consultative.

Some reforms were achieved. Health and education systems were put in place and laws were changed so that the peasantry could become landowners if they so chose - half of them did so by 1915. In-fighting between the Bolsheviks and Mensheviks continued during this time, with the former positing the idea that they should swap their underground status for a more public relationship with the now-legal trade unions, and the latter, viewing the bourgeois class as having been weakened by recent events, still pushing for a full proletarian overhaul of society.

Then, in 1914, came war, where inflation ran rampant in Russia, crippling taxes were imposed, and the peasantry were reduced to barely surviving at a level of subsistence farming. The Mensheviks largely supported Russia defending itself against Germany. The more radical Bolsheviks, fronted by the vocal Lenin, advocated flipping the situation into a civil war of the Russian proletariat against its own government, which, if successful, would evolve into a revolutionary war across Europe.

Again, the revolution of 1917 would initially see the various political factions scrambling to take ownership rather than leading from the front. General unrest suddenly led to major upheaval. On 23 February, thousands of women factory workers took to the streets of Saint Petersburg, nominally to mark Women's Day, until the tone shifted into chants demanding bread and mass singing of the French revolutionary anthem *La Marseillaise*. Three days later, rioting in Znamensky Square was met with gunfire from the Znamensky regiment, which caused several other regiments to find their soldiers mutinying in protest. The next day, Saint Petersburg fell to the insurgents, with the authorities retreating to the Winter Palace and the Duma in chaos.

Lenin speaking at the Tauride Palace in 1917

> "ELECTIONS WERE PROMISED AND THEN POSTPONED, BUT BEFORE THEY COULD HAPPEN, THE BOLSHEVIKS SEIZED POWER"

The Provisional Government in Petrograd, 1917

KEY FIGURES

BOLSHEVIKS

Vladimir Lenin

Leader of the Bolsheviks

The revolutionary thinker and politician steered Russia to communist revolution and was its premier from 1917 until his death from a stroke in 1924, aged 53. His body lay in state for four days and was viewed by almost a million mourners.

Leon Trotsky

Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee

Initially a Menshevik, Trotsky joined the Bolsheviks for the 1917 revolution and was instrumental in its success. He was later expelled from the Communist Party and exiled for his opposition to Stalin. He was assassinated in 1940.

Joseph Stalin

Member of the Central Committee

A minor player in the 1917 revolution, Stalin rose through Bolshevik ranks until he took leadership following Lenin's death. His rule turned Russia into an industrial power, but he was also responsible for the deaths of millions in the Gulags.

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

Prince Georgy Lvov

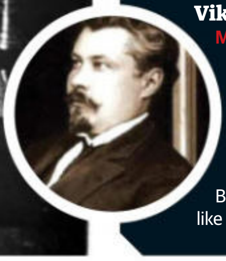
Minister President/Minister of the Interior

The first post-imperial prime minister of Russia, Lvov was the first head of the Provisional Government following Nicholas II's abdication. A veteran of the Duma, he failed to garner much support and resigned after four months.

Alexander Kerensky

Minister of Justice/Minister of War and Navy/ Minister President

The Trudovik Kerensky took over the Provisional Government in July 1917. Unpopular with the military, he was deposed by the revolution. He fled and remained in exile until his death in 1970.



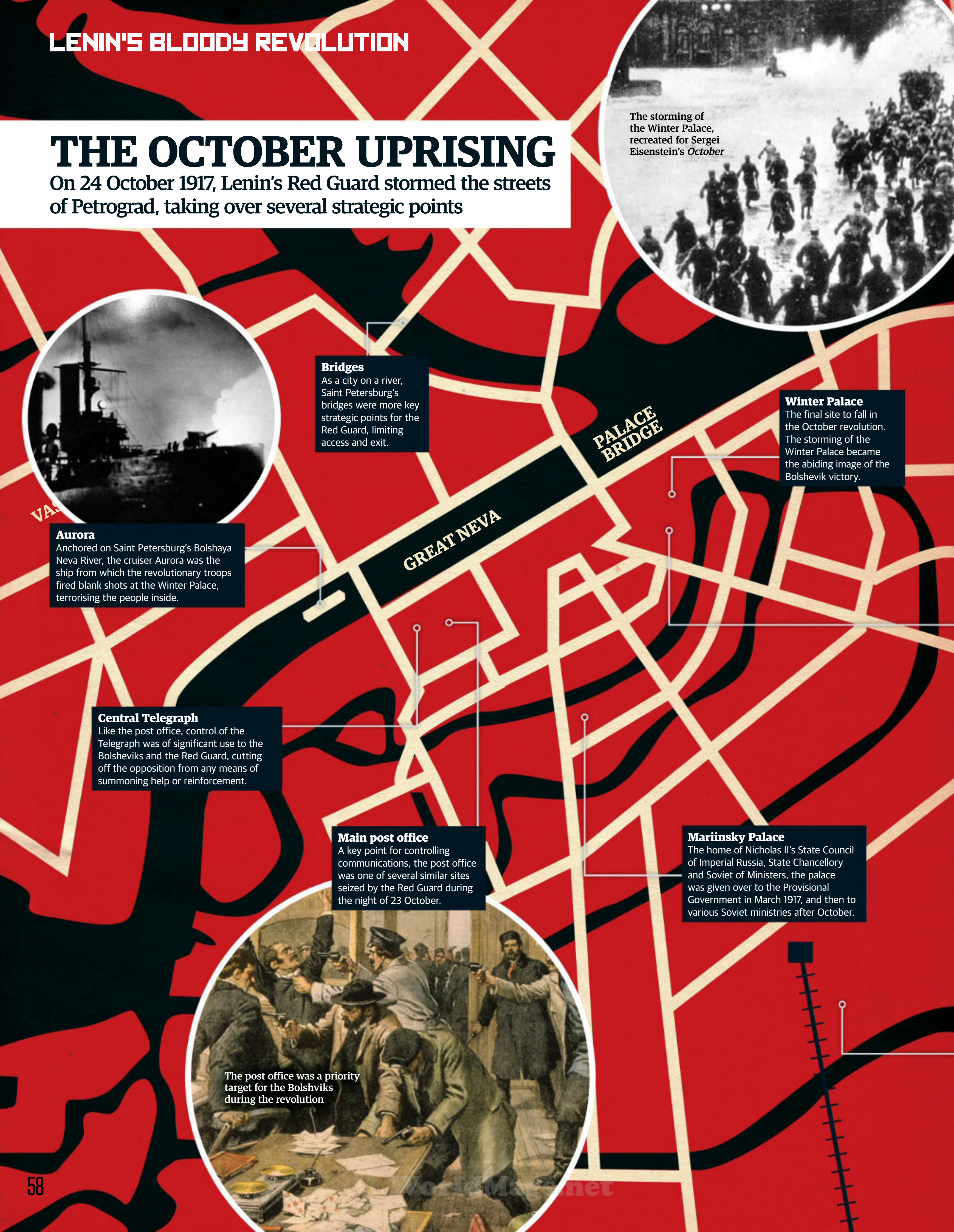
Viktor Chernov

Minister of Agriculture

One of the founding members of the Russian Socialist-Revolutionaries, Chernov was a formidable political analyst – some called him the "brain" of the party. Following the Bolsheviks' seizure of power he, like Kerensky, fled to Europe.

THE OCTOBER UPRISING

On 24 October 1917, Lenin's Red Guard stormed the streets of Petrograd, taking over several strategic points



The storming of the Winter Palace, recreated for Sergei Eisenstein's *October*

Bridges
As a city on a river, Saint Petersburg's bridges were more key strategic points for the Red Guard, limiting access and exit.

Winter Palace
The final site to fall in the October revolution. The storming of the Winter Palace became the abiding image of the Bolshevik victory.

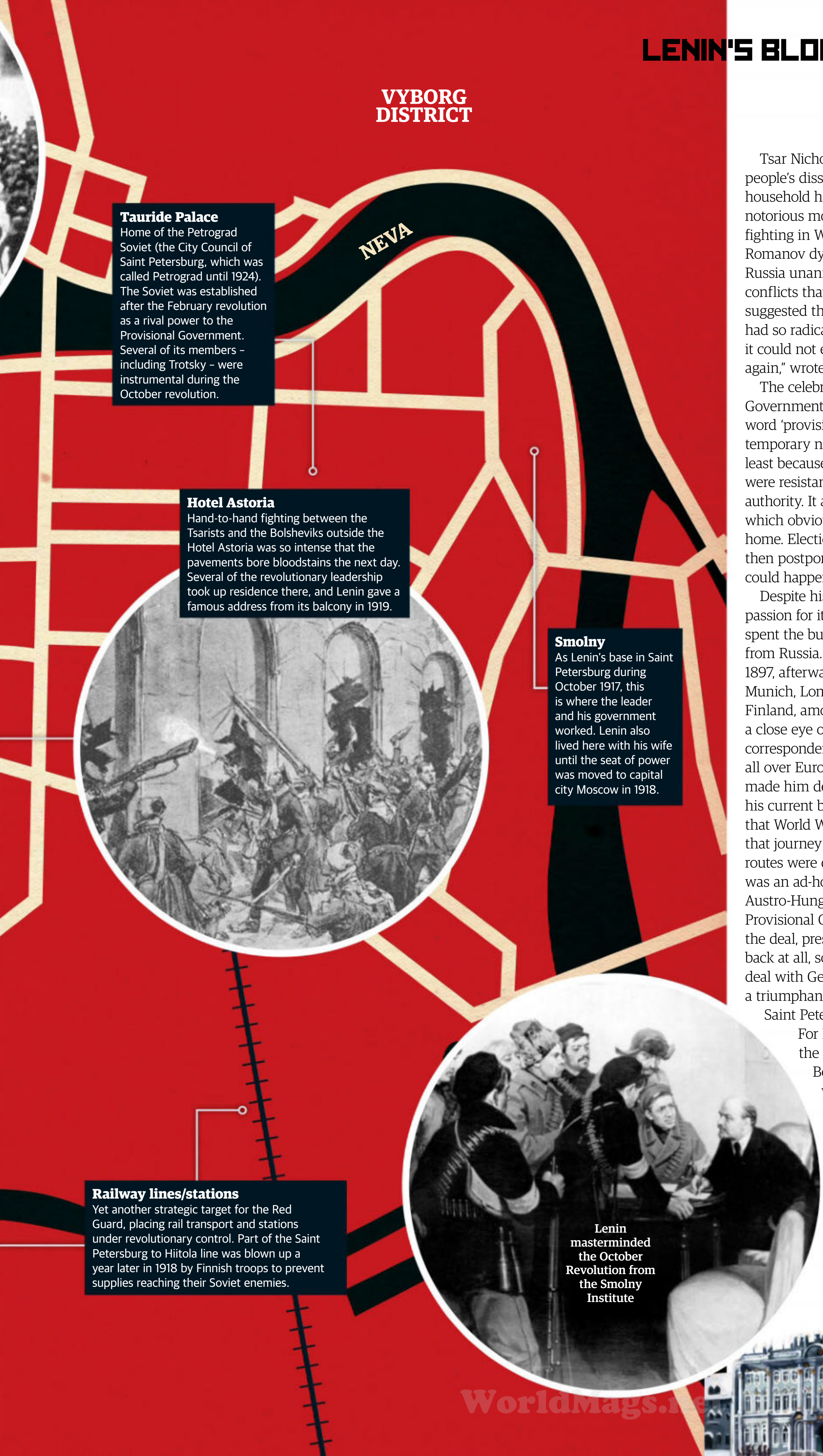
Aurora
Anchored on Saint Petersburg's Bolshaya Neva River, the cruiser Aurora was the ship from which the revolutionary troops fired blank shots at the Winter Palace, terrorising the people inside.

Central Telegraph
Like the post office, control of the Telegraph was of significant use to the Bolsheviks and the Red Guard, cutting off the opposition from any means of summoning help or reinforcement.

Main post office
A key point for controlling communications, the post office was one of several similar sites seized by the Red Guard during the night of 23 October.

Mariinsky Palace
The home of Nicholas II's State Council of Imperial Russia, State Chancellory and Soviet of Ministers, the palace was given over to the Provisional Government in March 1917, and then to various Soviet ministries after October.

The post office was a priority target for the Bolshviks during the revolution



Tauride Palace
Home of the Petrograd Soviet (the City Council of Saint Petersburg, which was called Petrograd until 1924). The Soviet was established after the February revolution as a rival power to the Provisional Government. Several of its members – including Trotsky – were instrumental during the October revolution.

Hotel Astoria
Hand-to-hand fighting between the Tsarists and the Bolsheviks outside the Hotel Astoria was so intense that the pavements bore bloodstains the next day. Several of the revolutionary leadership took up residence there, and Lenin gave a famous address from its balcony in 1919.

Smolny
As Lenin's base in Saint Petersburg during October 1917, this is where the leader and his government worked. Lenin also lived here with his wife until the seat of power was moved to capital city Moscow in 1918.

Railway lines/stations
Yet another strategic target for the Red Guard, placing rail transport and stations under revolutionary control. Part of the Saint Petersburg to Hiitola line was blown up a year later in 1918 by Finnish troops to prevent supplies reaching their Soviet enemies.

Lenin masterminded the October Revolution from the Smolny Institute

Tsar Nicholas, long the figurehead for the people's dissatisfaction – it didn't help that his household had come under the malign influence of notorious monk Rasputin while Nicholas had been fighting in World War I – abdicated, ending the Romanov dynasty with extraordinary suddenness. Russia unanimously rejoiced, and in the civil conflicts that followed, no party or faction even suggested the monarchy's revival. "The country had so radically vomited up the monarchy that it could not ever crawl down the people's throat again," wrote the Social Democrat Leon Trotsky.

The celebrations were short lived. A Provisional Government was formed, but while the very word 'provisional' was intended to make clear its temporary nature, it struggled to keep order: not least because, having not been elected, the people were resistant to the idea that it wielded any authority. It also continued to fight in World War I, which obviously remained an unpopular policy at home. Elections were promised for September and then postponed until November, but before they could happen, the Bolsheviks seized power.

Despite his devotion to his homeland and his passion for its political struggles, Lenin had actually spent the bulk of the previous two decades away from Russia. Exiled to Siberia for three years in 1897, afterwards he spent itinerant periods in Munich, London, Paris, Sweden, Switzerland and Finland, among other places, all the time keeping a close eye on events at home and keeping up correspondence with his revolutionary comrades all over Europe. The unrest in February 1917 made him desperate to return to Russia from his current base in Switzerland, but the fact that World War I was raging around him made that journey problematic. Various adventurous routes were discussed, but the eventual solution was an ad-hoc exchange of Russian exiles for Austro-Hungarian prisoners of war. The Russian Provisional Government dragged their heels over the deal, presumably not sure they wanted Lenin back at all, so the impatient communists did the deal with Germany themselves. Lenin arrived to a triumphant reception at the Finland Station in Saint Petersburg in April 1917.

For Lenin, the timing was urgent. Over the next six months he deluged his Bolshevik Central Committee colleagues with arguments in favour of radical immediate action, and on 10 October, the decision to seize power was made, with an alliance of Lenin and former Menshevik Trotsky, now the chairman of the predominantly Bolshevik Petrograd Soviet (meaning 'council'), at its vanguard.

The night of 23 October gave the revolutionaries the excuse they needed for their assault on power,

SOVIET DECREES

In the seven years following the revolution in 1917, the new government issued dozens of legislative acts. They were known as decrees

DECREE ON PEACE

The document proposing the immediate withdrawal of Russia from World War I: a key Bolshevik policy since before the revolution.

DECREE ON LAND

Again, a central Bolshevik policy made law: private property was to be abolished and landed estates redistributed among the peasantry.

DECREE SOCIALIST HOMELAND IS IN DANGER!

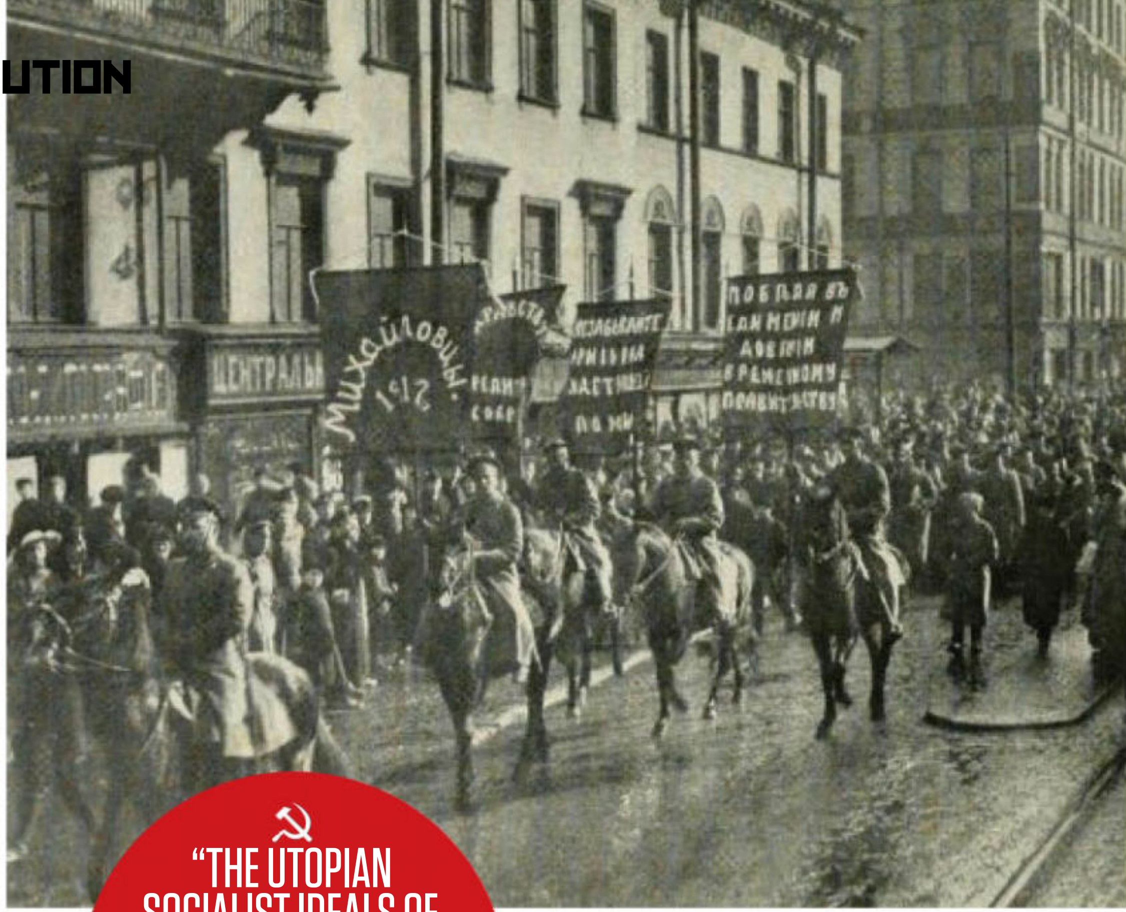
A call for peasant forces to mobilise in Russia's defence in the face of German advances. "Protect each position to the last drop of blood!" was the cry.

DECREE ON THE RED TERROR

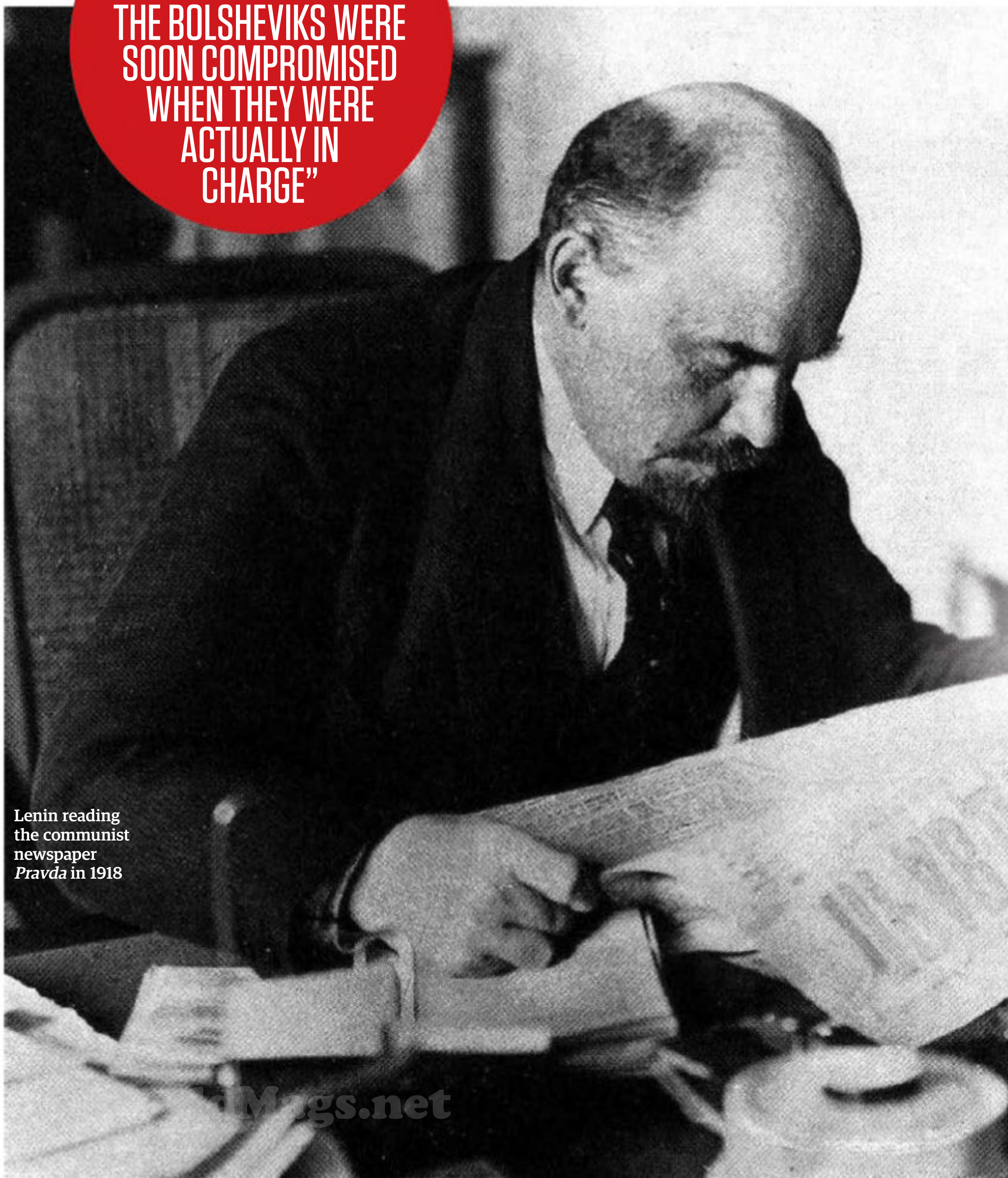
An appeal for workers to crush any signs of counter-revolution against the Bolsheviks. "Anyone who dares to spread the slightest rumour against the Soviet regime will be arrested immediately..."

DECREE ON THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME MEASUREMENT ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL TIME ZONE SYSTEM

Russia changed from the 'Old Style' Gregorian Calendar to the 'New Style' Julian system of much of the rest of the world in 1919. There's a few days' difference, meaning the October Revolution actually took place in November.



> "THE UTOPIAN SOCIALIST IDEALS OF THE BOLSHEVIKS WERE SOON COMPROMISED WHEN THEY WERE ACTUALLY IN CHARGE"



Lenin reading the communist newspaper *Pravda* in 1918

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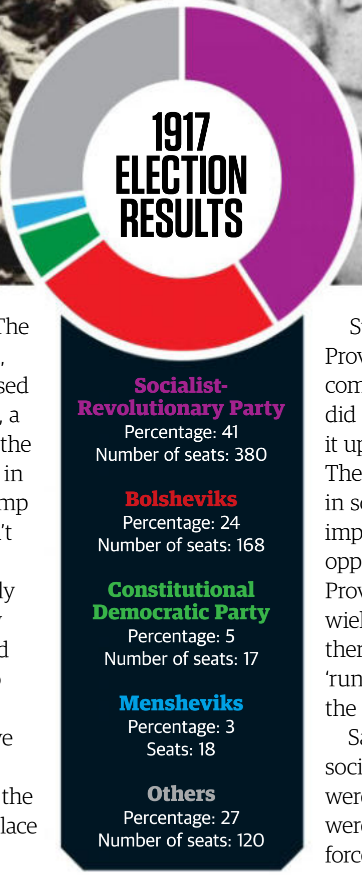
Совѣтъ Солдатскихъ Депутатовъ въ Государственной Думѣ

A session of the Petrograd Soviet in 1917

Nicholas II, not long after his abdication in 1917



Socialist-Revolutionary Party
Percentage: 41
Number of seats: 380

Bolsheviks
Percentage: 24
Number of seats: 168

Constitutional Democratic Party
Percentage: 5
Number of seats: 17

Mensheviks
Percentage: 3
Seats: 18

Others
Percentage: 27
Number of seats: 120

when the Provisional Government, led by the moderate-socialist Alexander Kerensky, ordered the shutting down of the Bolshevik printing presses as a prelude to an attack on the Petrograd Military Revolutionary Committee. In retaliation, the Bolsheviks' armed bands of proletariat workers, known as the Red Guard, stormed strategic points such as bridges, railway stations, telephone exchanges, post offices, the national bank and the Tauride Palace. Kerensky fled, having been unable to muster counter-troops in time. By the morning, the only site that hadn't fallen to the revolutionaries was the Winter Palace, the headquarters of the Provisional Government.

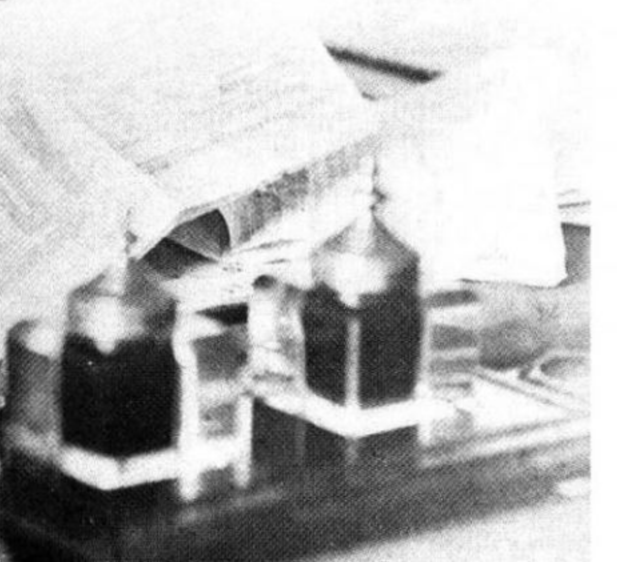
The 'Storming of the Winter Palace' has gone down as a famously dramatic moment in history, but it was actually a much more scrappy affair than portrayals like Sergei Eisenstein's classic film *October* have suggested. The revolutionary military had planned to begin the assault using heavy artillery from the nearby Peter and Paul Fortress, but it turned out that the weapons there were rusty from disuse and wouldn't function. Soldiers brought up replacement cannons from elsewhere in the fortress, but then realised they didn't have the right shells to fire from them. The signal to attack, it had been agreed, would come from a red lantern raised on a flagpole, but during the event, a red lantern couldn't be found, and the soldier sent to look for one got lost in the dark and fell into a bog. The lamp he eventually brought back couldn't be attached to the pole and wasn't red anyway. Nobody that eventually participated in the attack even saw it. This Pythonesque chaos dragged the Winter Palace's downfall out to a tortuous 15 hours, when a more organised force could probably have achieved it in far less time.

Luckily for the Bolshevik forces, the defence from within the Winter Palace was practically non-existent. The ministers inside were inexperienced in military matters, and the small number of troops defending them were becoming increasingly nervous the longer they waited for the Bolsheviks to breach the doors. Ammunition and food supplies for even a single evening were desperately low, and when the Bolsheviks began firing blank shots at the palace from the cruiser Aurora anchored on the Bolshaya Neva River, the soldiers mostly panicked and fled. Lenin appeared in public for the first time in months to proclaim that the Provisional Government had been overthrown, and that the time had finally come to "set about building a proletarian socialist state." The Bolshevik position was strengthened even further when the Mensheviks and the Social Revolutionaries walked out of the resultant talks, leaving Lenin and his comrades basically unopposed. "You are miserable bankrupts. You have played out your role," Trotsky said to those departing. "Go where you belong, into the dustbin of history."

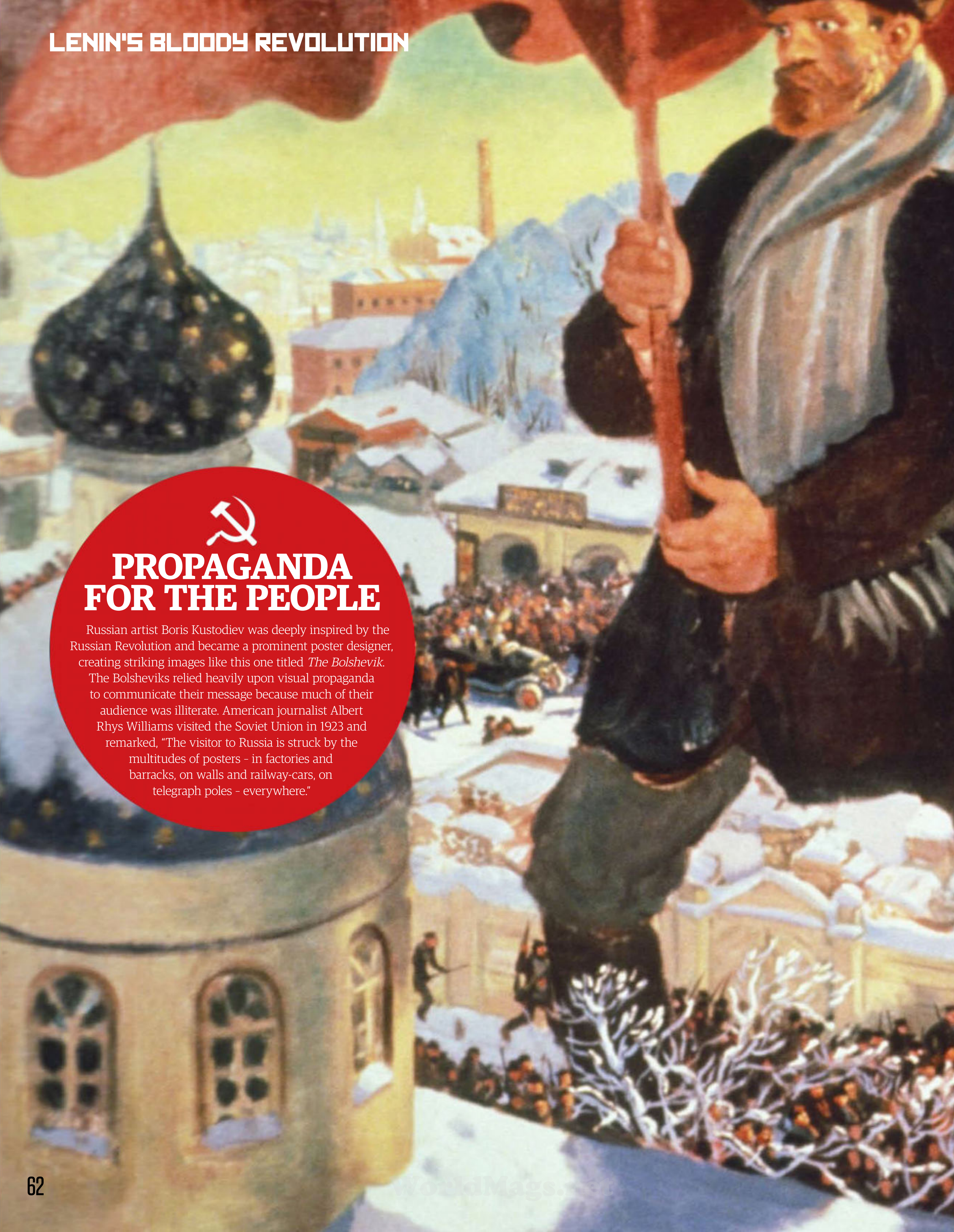
Such had been the state of the Provisional Government that, as one commentator put it, the Bolsheviks did not so much seize power as pick it up from where it had been dropped. The revolution has been called a coup in some circles, but the word 'coup' implies taking power from a strong opponent, where the power that the Provisional Government actually wielded was debatable. Essentially, there had been nobody actually 'running' Russia for the months since the abdication of the Tsar.

Sadly, however, the utopian socialist ideals of the Bolsheviks were soon compromised when they were actually in charge, with Lenin forced into compromises like the crippling Brest-Litovsk peace treaty with Germany, which lost Russia several of its provinces and deprived it of vast swathes of its agricultural and industrial resources. The Bolshevik ideology proved largely unworkable simply due to the practicalities of governance. Lenin ended up replacing one monolithic state with a different one, overruling the 'free' elections of November 1917 (in which the Socialist-Revolutionary Party won a significant majority of the votes) and announcing "the Dictatorship of the Proletariat" so that the Bolsheviks walked away with power anyway. Factional splits and civil war followed, as did the continuing oppression of the proletariat that Bolshevism had sought to liberate, the catastrophic famine of the 1930s and the horrific regime of the former Bolshevik Joseph Stalin.

The flurry of ideas that had led to the revolution had been, and for many is still, inspirational. The tragedy remains that the revolutionaries failed to live up to their own ideology.



© Joe Cummings; Alamy; Rex Features



PROPAGANDA FOR THE PEOPLE

Russian artist Boris Kustodiev was deeply inspired by the Russian Revolution and became a prominent poster designer, creating striking images like this one titled *The Bolshevik*. The Bolsheviks relied heavily upon visual propaganda to communicate their message because much of their audience was illiterate. American journalist Albert Rhys Williams visited the Soviet Union in 1923 and remarked, "The visitor to Russia is struck by the multitudes of posters - in factories and barracks, on walls and railway-cars, on telegraph poles - everywhere."

HEROES & VILLAINS

Dick Turpin

Immortalised as the dashing fugitive who rode across the country in a night, the tales are far from the truth of the man behind the legend

Written by Peter Thorpe

History has painted Dick Turpin as a hero of romance – a 'dandy highwayman' handsome enough to make ladies swoon. But, when it comes to this notorious criminal, history has been kind. Turpin had been scarred by smallpox and had a distinctly ordinary face, he did not ride from London to York on a horse called Black Bess, and to describe him as a 'highwayman' is not strictly accurate – he did not take to stopping coaches until later in his 'career'.

Dick Turpin was a cattle thief, robber and murderer who would not shy away from assaulting women if he had to. For it he ended up dangling at the end of a rope. This false 'romantic' reputation was bestowed upon him by William Harrison Ainsworth, a novelist of the 19th century who turned Turpin into a hero in his novel *Rookwood*. Over the years, many films have also made Turpin out to be some kind of Robin Hood character.

But the real Dick Turpin was born at the Rose and Crown in Hempstead, Essex. He was baptised in the village church of St Andrew's as Richardus Turpin on 21 September 1705 to Maria and John – a farmer, butcher and sometime innkeeper. Little is known of Turpin's early years, save for the fact he was apprenticed to a butcher in Whitechapel sometime in his teens, and by the time he was 21 he had his own shop. Early in his career of crime he would obtain sheep and cattle by 'relieving' the animals from farms in the neighbourhood.

On one occasion, having stolen two bullocks from a farmer by the name of Mr Giles of Plaistow, he drove the pair to his house and slaughtered them. Unbeknown to Turpin, two servants of Mr Giles suspected him as the culprit and managed to trace the animals to his house. The animals' carcasses were seen by the two servants, but of course without the skins they could not be sure. However, they knew that Turpin used to get rid of hides at the nearby town of Waltham Abbey, and it was there that they discovered them. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Turpin, but as the law officers were entering his house, he escaped through a back window and fled.

> Turpin's father was jailed after he refused to say how he came by his new horse, a gift from his son

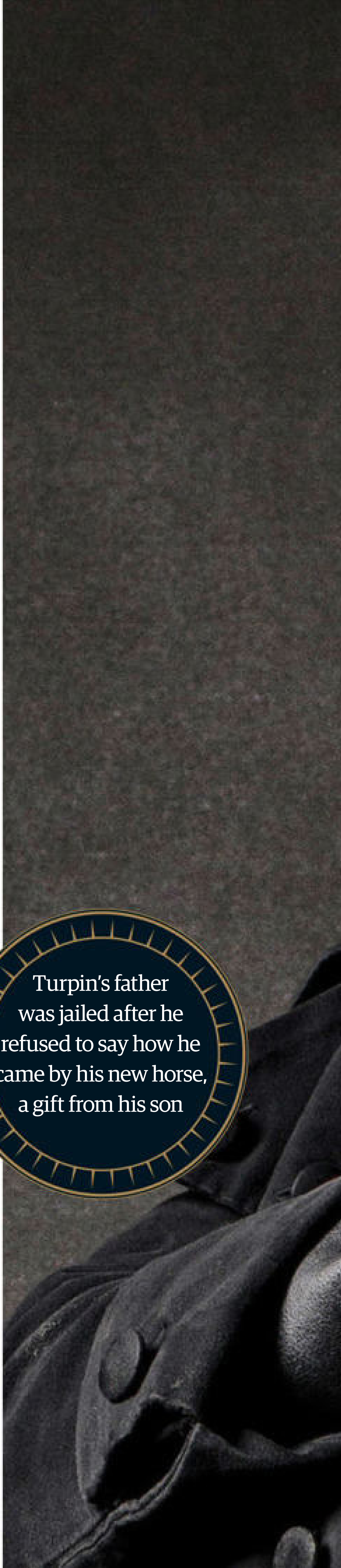
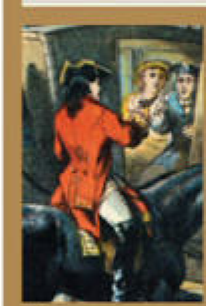


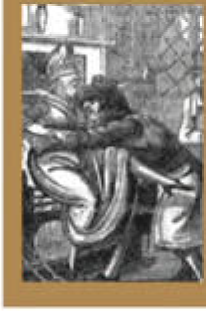
Image courtesy of The York Dungeon

Allies



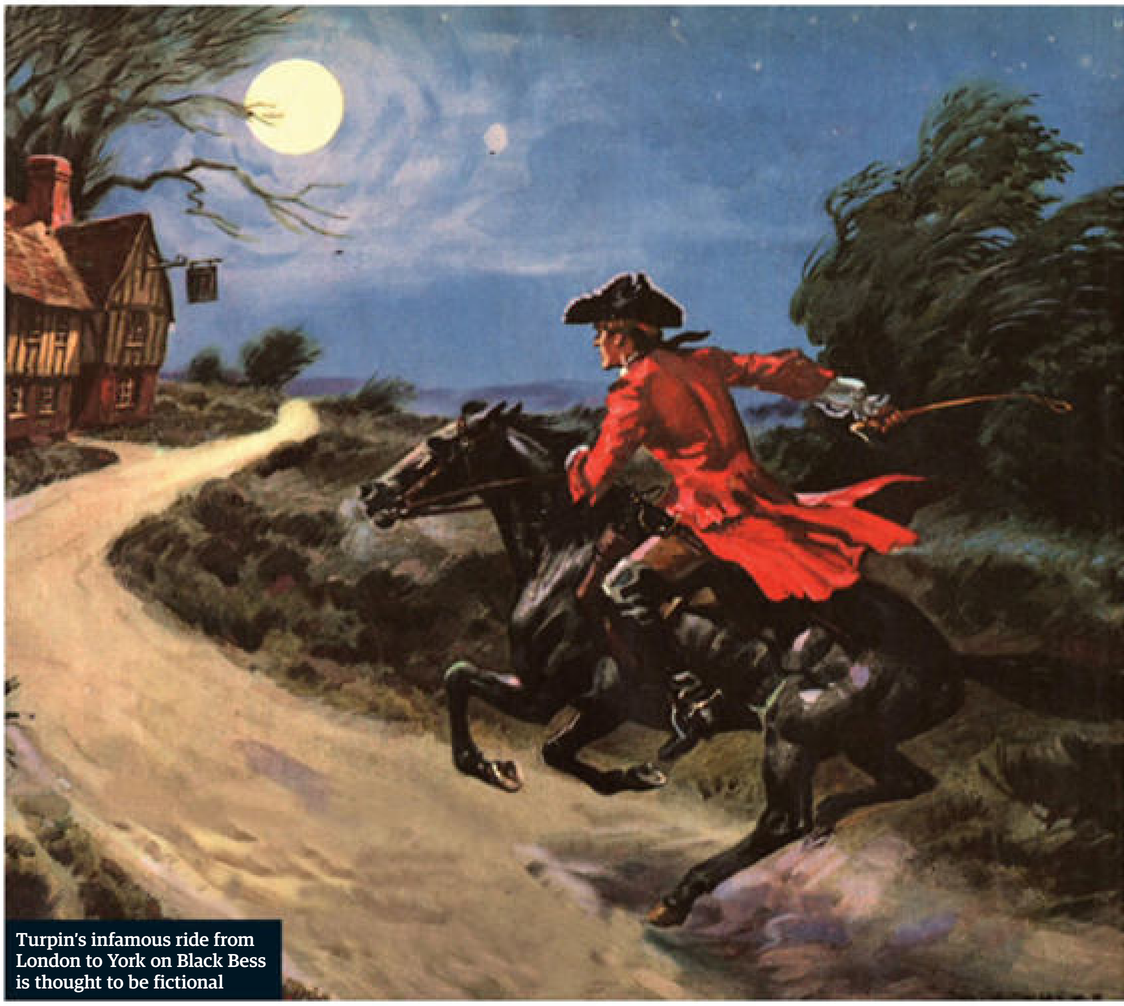
Tom King

Nicknamed the 'Gentleman Highwayman', King's first encounter with Turpin happened when Turpin tried to rob him. When his attempts failed, the two joined forces as a crime duo, and it was because of King's influence that Turpin turned away from petty crime and began his career as a highwayman.



Samuel Gregory

A blacksmith by trade, Gregory was also leader of a gang of deer-stealers, known as the Essex gang. They were renowned for their deadly raids on farmhouses and poaching deer in the Forest of Waltham. The gang needed a way to dispose of the deer, and Turpin, then a young butcher, was the perfect candidate.



Turpin's infamous ride from London to York on Black Bess is thought to be fictional

Evading the law for the first time, Turpin's life began to change. He went from supplementing his business by stealing livestock to making a living as a career criminal. He spent a short time as a smuggler, curtailed by the intervention of customs officers. He then joined up with the Essex Gang - notorious deer stealers in Epping Forest. His crimes within the gang and alone were vast.

But this was not enough for the ambitious Turpin, who had quickly become leader of the Essex gang, and soon the group turned to housebreaking. They first attacked the house of Mr Strype, an elderly shopkeeper in Watford, stealing all his cash but leaving him unharmed.

Then, on 11 January 1735, Turpin and five gang members forced their way into the house of a man named Saunders; they found the family playing cards. They broke open a desk and chests and grabbed £100 and a quantity of plates. Not content with their haul, they ransacked the larder and the wine cellar. After helping themselves to dinner and drinks, they left and went to an inn in Woolwich to carry on celebrating. Later that night they broke into an empty house and stashed the loot.

In the following weeks, Turpin gathered information about an elderly woman living in Loughton who had significant savings in her home. On 1 February 1735, Turpin and his cronies broke into the house of 'the old widow Shelley'. Confronting her, the gang demanded to know the whereabouts of her horde, but she refused to tell them. Turpin, outraged, was recorded to have said: "God damn your blood, you old bitch, if you won't tell me I'll set your arse on the grate!" After she refused to answer, according to *The Newgate Calendar*, he did exactly that. For the next few weeks Turpin had a number of narrow escapes, but continued his robberies, and at some point took up with Matthew 'Tom' King, another notorious highwayman. This partnership ended, however, when Turpin accidentally shot King while they were trying to escape from the authorities.

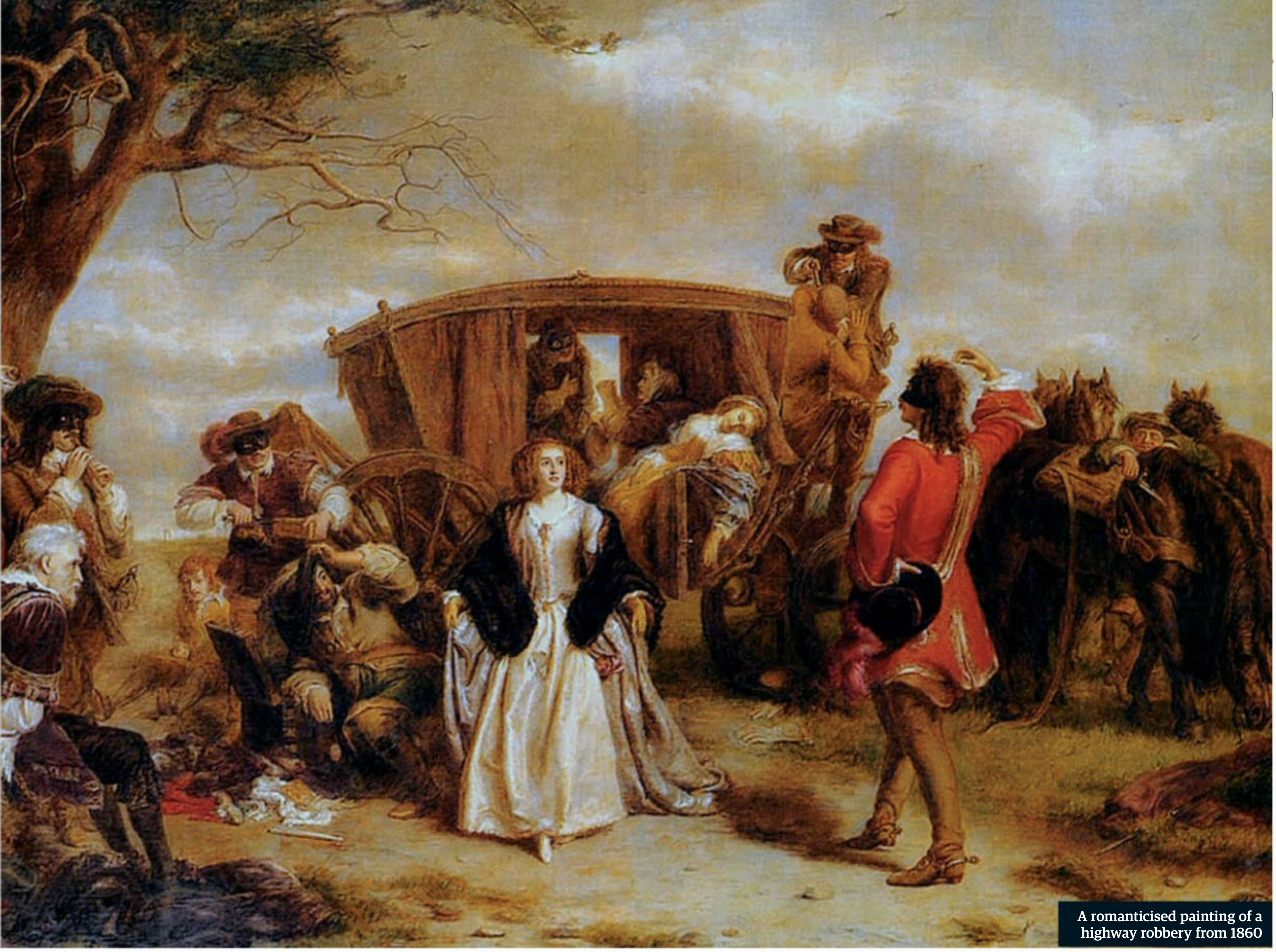
After much criminal activity, on his own and with his gang, on 4 May 1737 Turpin committed the crime that would bring him to the gallows. The keeper of Epping Forest had received information that Turpin might be hiding in a cave there. The reward was £900 for his capture. The keeper sent Thomas Morris, one of his servants, accompanied by a higgler (travelling produce buyer) to apprehend him. They came across Turpin, who, thinking they were poachers, said: "There are no hares in this thicket," in the hope they might go on their way. "No," replied Morris, "but I have a Turpin." With that he demanded Turpin surrender, but the crook was quick on his feet, and backed into the cave to get his carbine. Morris was taken off his guard and paid with his life as Turpin shot him. The higgler ran, fearing he would be next.

A few days later, posters appeared offering an award of £200 to anyone who could provide information on Turpin's whereabouts.

> Although Turpin's family knew he was the most wanted man in the country, they never gave up his location

Now living under the alias John Palmer, Turpin was eventually captured more than a year later, at the Green Man Inn in Welton, East Yorkshire, and then lodged in the Beverley House of Correction until he was transferred to York Castle.

It was in York Castle jail that Turpin made the fatal mistake of writing to his brother-in-law. In the letter, dated 6 February 1739, Turpin asked that his brother provide a character reference, signing the letter 'John Palmer'. Unfortunately for Turpin, the letter was returned unopened as his brother refused to pay the postage, not knowing anyone living in York. The letter found its way to Saffron Walden, where James Smith, a former teacher of Turpin's, saw the letter in the post office, recognised the handwriting and immediately informed Thomas Stubbing, justice of the peace. Stubbing opened the letter and Smith's testimony confirmed that John Palmer and Dick Turpin were one and the same person. Turpin had used part of his mother's maiden name of Parmenter in an attempt to deceive the authorities. This was the end of the road for Turpin; his fate was sealed.



A romanticised painting of a highway robbery from 1860

> “Turpin’s crimes within the gang and alone were vast”

James Smith was sent to York to positively identify Turpin. Word quickly spread that the infamous Dick Turpin was a prisoner in York Castle and people from all over the country flocked to the prison to try to grasp at least a glimpse of the notorious highwayman.

Turpin was convicted on two indictments of horse theft, but not murder. Stealing horses had been a capital offence since 1545 and he was sentenced to death by the judge. After his conviction, he wrote to his father in order to try to illicit the help of a “gentleman and lady of rank to make interest that his sentence might be remitted; and that he might be transported.”

Due to his notoriety and character, it came as no surprise when nobody spoke up in Turpin’s defence. He had protested throughout his trial that he had not been given enough time to form his defence and asked that proceedings should be delayed until he could call his witnesses. This had been refused and the judge asked Turpin if there was any reason why he should not be given the death sentence. Turpin replied: “It is very hard upon me, my lord, because I was not prepared for my defence.” The judge replied: “Why was you not? You knew the time of the assizes as well as any person here.” Turpin also claimed that he had been told that the trial would be held in Essex and the judge again came back with: “Whoever told you so were highly to blame; and as your country have found you guilty of a crime worthy of death, it is my office to pronounce sentence against you.”

Many people visited Turpin in his cell while he was awaiting his sentence and the York Castle jailer was said to have earned about £100 by selling drinks to his visitors.

Finally, the day came for Turpin to be taken to Knavesmire in York to meet his maker. Due to not having a full-time hangman, it was usual that a pardoned felon be used as executioner. This job was given to a Thomas Hadfield and in an account in *The Gentleman’s Magazine* from 7 April 1739: “Turpin behaved in an undaunted manner; as he mounted the ladder, feeling his right leg tremble, he spoke a few words to the topsman, then threw himself off, and expir’d in five minutes.”

In those times, what was called the ‘short drop’ method of hanging strangled the victim to death, and slowly too. Turpin was left there till later in the day and eventually cut down and removed to a tavern in Castlegate in York.

The following morning, Turpin’s corpse was transferred to the graveyard of St George’s Church in Fishergate. The following Tuesday, his corpse was snatched from his grave, but was later recovered and reburied, this time in quicklime.

Turpin’s grave can still be seen, however, there is speculation he was not buried there at all. We will probably never know, but the legend of Dick Turpin lives on as England’s most infamous highwayman.

Hero or villain?

HEROISM

Though Turpin was certainly a daring character, he only ever used his bravery for wrongdoing

VILLAINY

From petty theft to murder, there wasn’t a single alley of crime that Turpin was unwilling to explore

LEGACY

Turpin’s life has been romanticised in countless novels and films, making him one of history’s most infamous villains

© Look and Learn; Mary Evans

Nefertiti

THE QUEEN WHO KILLED THE GODS

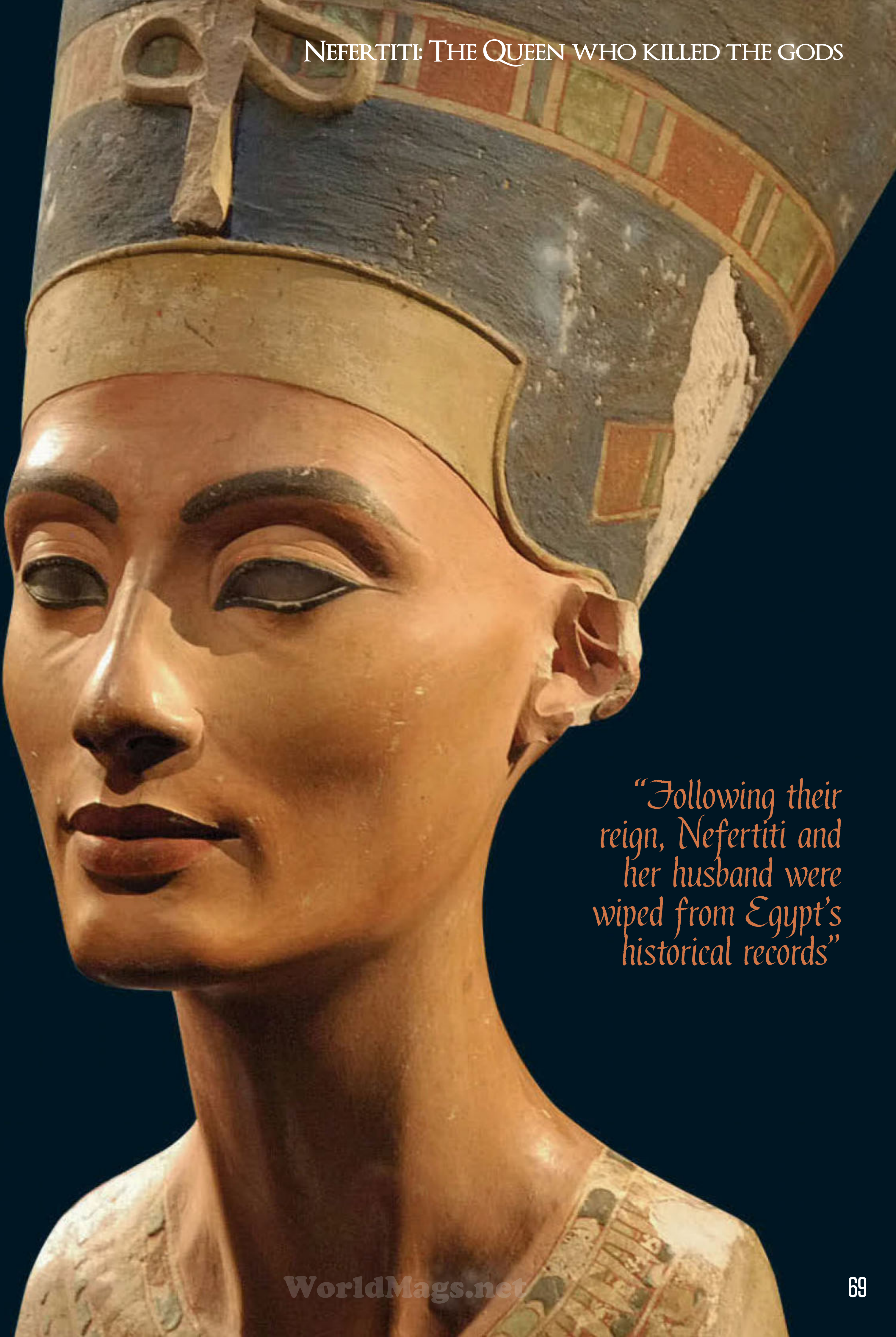
Written by Alicea Francis

Her limestone bust is recognised the world over, and her chiselled features and perfect proportions have come to epitomise our ideas of beauty. But who was the woman behind the masterpiece?

On 6 December 1912, an Egyptian workman digging along the banks of the River Nile unearthed one of the most precious treasures in the history of Egyptology. The man was one of many working on the excavation of an ancient sculptor's workshop, a dig overseen by German archaeologist Ludwig Borchardt. As he felt the knowing jolt of his pick against hard stone, he brushed away the earth to reveal the distinctive colours of ancient paintwork, and immediately called for his superior. Borchardt recalls: "The tools were put aside and the hands were now used," revealing the slender neck of a limestone bust buried upside down in the dirt. Digging deeper, they revealed a pair of full, red lips; a dramatic, sloping nose; almond eyes; and dark, arching eyebrows. Finally, they uncovered a huge cylindrical crown, one that had only been seen before in the few existing depictions of one ancient Egyptian: Queen Nefertiti.

Since its discovery, the bust has become one of the most visited and most iconic artefacts of the ancient kingdom. Yet it remains one of the most elusive. Following their reign, Nefertiti and her husband Pharaoh Akhenaten were virtually wiped from Egypt's historical records - their faces chiselled away from stone reliefs, their names scratched out from inscriptions. To add to the mystery, all references to Nefertiti vanished completely in about the 12th year of Akhenaten's reign, with no mention of her made thereafter. What had they done to instil such hatred in their people? And why did Nefertiti suddenly disappear? It is only now, more than 3,000 years after their deaths, that the answers are beginning to resurface.

The truth about Nefertiti's parentage is uncertain, but it is likely she was born outside of the royal family: possibly the daughter of a court vizier, or a Mittani princess sent to unite two kingdoms. What we do know is that her face was one of timeless beauty - her name means 'the beautiful one has come' - and she would have been a desirable match for the young Egyptian prince, then known as Amenhotep. The pair were



“Following their reign, Nefertiti and her husband were wiped from Egypt’s historical records”

EGYPT'S FEMALE PHARAOHS

Most of the ancient rulers were men, but a few women became the empire's most powerful individuals

Sobekneferu

Sobekneferu was the first female pharaoh. When her brother died without leaving a male heir, Sobekneferu ascended the throne. Very little else is known about her, but some believe that she is the Egyptian princess who rescued Moses from the reeds.

Nitocris

The Greek historian Heroditus listed Nitocris as the last pharaoh of the Sixth Dynasty. She is believed to have killed her brother's murderers by inviting them to a banquet in an underground chamber and flooding the room with water from the Nile.

Hatshepsut

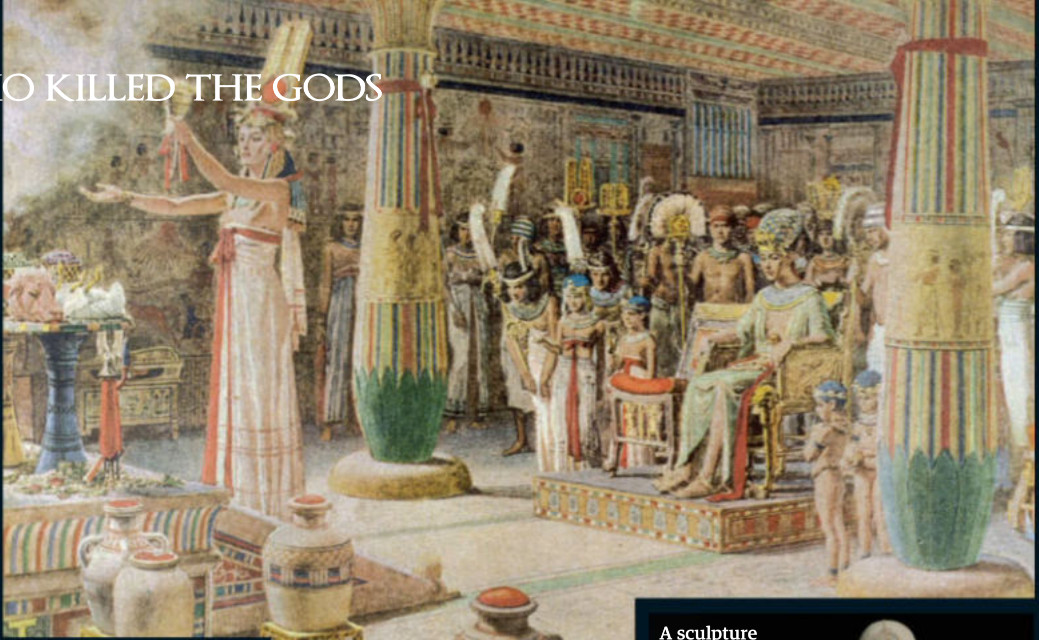
Hatshepsut is considered to be one of Egypt's most successful pharaohs. She established several important trade routes, which led to a huge growth in the nation's wealth and also commissioned hundreds of building projects.

Twosret

This woman came to the throne after her young stepson, with who she was co-regent, died. She ruled during a turbulent time and it is likely that she was overthrown from power during a civil war.

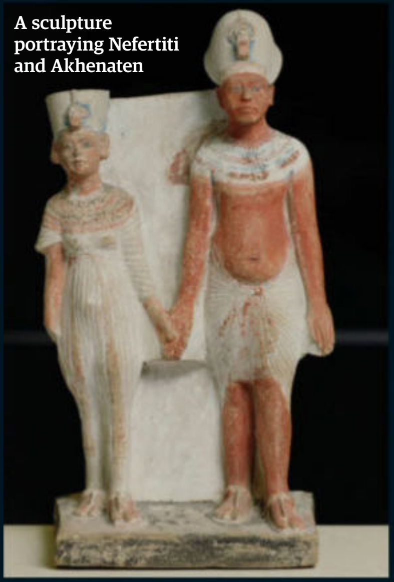
Cleopatra

Perhaps the most famous female pharaoh in Egypt's history, Cleopatra is infamous for her liaisons with several important Roman politicians, and is believed to have committed suicide after Mark Anthony's death.



It is likely that Nefertiti led worship, indicating that she held significant power

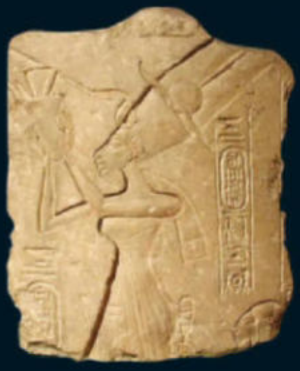
The ruins of Amarna as seen today, surrounded by inhospitable cliffs



A sculpture portraying Nefertiti and Akhenaten

married in their mid teens, had their first child shortly after, and ascended the throne around 1351 BCE. What is known of their early reign is sketchy, but archaeologists have deduced that throughout the 18th Dynasty, a cult of the god Amun had grown incredibly powerful, so much so that by the time Amenhotep was crowned, the cult's priests were almost as powerful as the pharaoh himself.

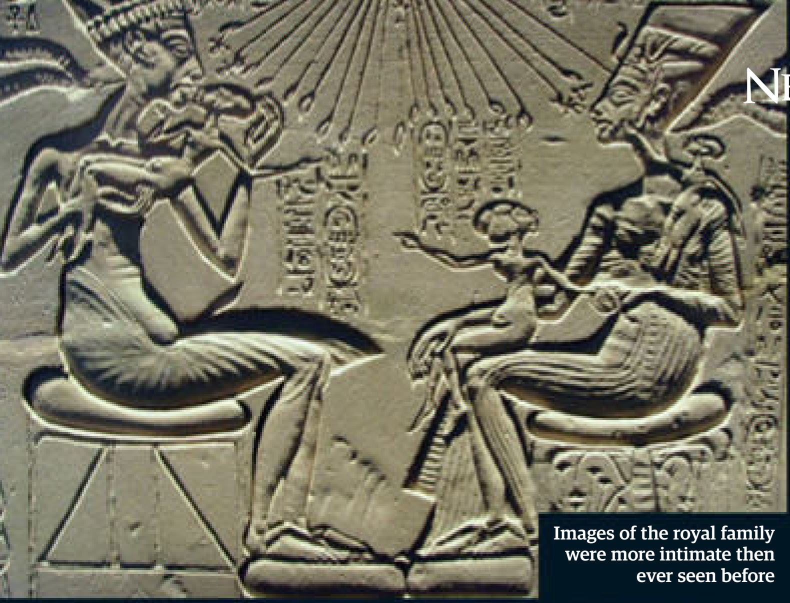
But in the fifth year of Amenhotep's reign, something extraordinary happened. The pharaoh changed his name to Akhenaten, plundered and closed down the temples and threw the priests out of office. After thousands of years of polytheism, he and Nefertiti declared that there was now only one true god: Aten, the sun-disc. And the only way to reach this god was through the pharaoh himself. Akhenaten then led a mass exodus from the ancient capital of Thebes and set about building a new city in the middle of the desert, which he called 'Amarna'. This was to be the new centre of the Ancient Egyptian empire. The city was surrounded on three sides by inhospitable cliffs – a natural defence against enemies of the crown. The young pharaoh knew that his actions had not been popular, and the rumblings of unrest could be felt across the kingdom.



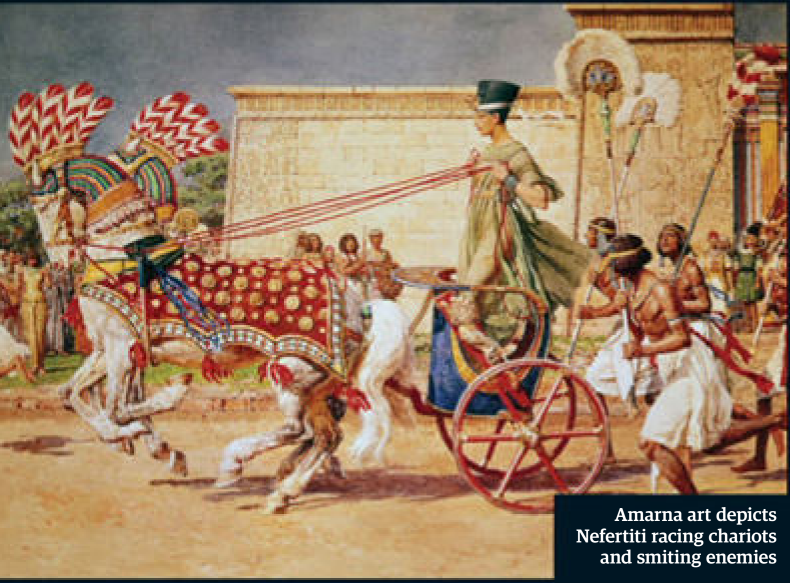
A limestone relief depicting Nefertiti making offerings to the sun god, Aten

With this religious revolution also came a cultural one. Egyptian art, which before had been stiff and formal, became much more naturalistic. Depictions of Akhenaten took on a far more feminine shape, with rounded hips and a prominent chest. Scenes depicting the royal family became more intimate, showing the couple kissing and bouncing their children on their knees. But what is perhaps most extraordinary about the art of Amarna is the way Queen Nefertiti was portrayed. Reliefs and statues show Nefertiti chariot racing, smiting enemies and even leading worship – roles that before had always been reserved for the pharaoh. During the first five years of their reign, she appeared in reliefs almost twice as often as her husband, and is often shown as being of equal size to him, suggesting that Nefertiti was far more powerful than the wives of the pharaohs before her.

However, it wasn't long before this period of rich culture and peace came to an abrupt end. Akhenaten had exhausted nearly all of his resources in building his new city and the nation



Images of the royal family were more intimate then ever seen before



Amarna art depicts Nefertiti racing chariots and smiting enemies

Nefertiti: The first woman to be airbrushed?

CT scans of the famous bust have revealed that Nefertiti may not have been as beautiful as was first believed. Scientists have been able to analyse the layers of stucco below the outer one and have discovered that the original model had less prominent cheekbones, a slight bump on the ridge of the nose and even wrinkles around the mouth and cheeks. Just like modern airbrushing, it is likely that the queen's sculpture was altered to adhere to contemporary ideas of beauty.

> "After millennia of polytheism, they declared that there was now only one god, and the only way to reach Him was through the pharaoh"

was on the brink of bankruptcy. Large parts of the Egyptian empire had fallen under the control of the expanding Hittite kingdom, after the pharaoh had refused to listen to the advice of his generals and send military enforcements to the north. Not only was there an economic crisis, but the spiritual crisis that had been bubbling beneath the surface was ready to explode. The pharaoh's new religion had destroyed all the ancient traditions that the Egyptians held so dear, and very few were prepared to let go of their trusted and much-loved gods. Revolts broke out across the nation, spurred on by the bitter priests and military officials who were desperate to take back the powers that had been so ruthlessly stolen from them. By the time of his death around 1334 BCE, Akhenaten's country was a broken one.

It is unlikely that these revolts came as a surprise, but what the Egyptians could never have predicted was the disappearance of Nefertiti in the 12th year of her husband's reign. Whereas before her face had adorned the walls of temples and palaces, from the year 1339 BCE, all records and depictions of her stopped being made. What had happened to the queen – the woman the pharaoh seemed to worship? Some historians believe that she fell out of favour, perhaps because she was unable to bear Akhenaten the son he so desperately wanted. Others believe she died, a victim, perhaps, of the flu epidemic that was plaguing the country, or even a jealous member of Akhenaten's harem.

But one piece of art, known as the *Coregency Stela*, suggests that Nefertiti didn't disappear at all, rather that she became someone else; someone far more powerful. In the piece, Nefertiti and Akhenaten are depicted with one of their daughters, but Nefertiti's name has been chiselled out and replaced with a different one – 'Ankhkheperure Neferneferuaten'. This was the name of Akenhaten's co-regent, who was crowned around the same time that Nefertiti's name disappeared from history. Could Nefertiti have taken on a new name and become her husband's co-regent? And if so, could this explain the identity of the mysterious pharaoh who came to power after the death of Akhenaten?

These are questions that we will likely never know the answer to, as in the years following his death, nearly all evidence of Akhenaten's reign was destroyed by the people he had so inherently wounded. Deemed a heretic, his name was scratched from the walls of the temples and depictions of the beautiful Nefertiti mutilated with chisels. But Akhenaten's legacy lived on in the form of a son, the identity of who's mother is still contested. The boy was called Tutankhaten, meaning 'the living image of Aten', and he succeeded to the throne when he was about nine years old. Despite his tender age, he immediately set about reversing the changes made during his father's reign. Amarna was abandoned and fell into ruin, the old gods were brought back from the dead and the priests of Amun were reinstated. But there remained one remnant of the old religion, one that couldn't be destroyed with a hammer or chisel. The remnant was the boy's name. Just like his father and stepmother before him, Tutankhaten gave himself a new name, a name that would honour the glory of Amun and the gods that his people loved so dearly. It was one that thousands of years later would be pasted across newsstands and known to people in every corner of the globe. The name was Tutankhamun.

The search for Nefertiti

Could the mummy in tomb KV35 be that of the famous Egyptian queen?

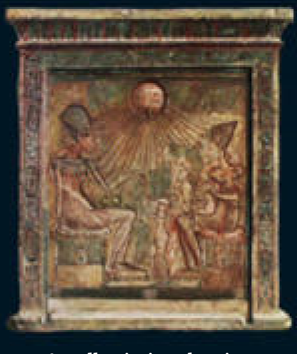
Daily Mail CHALKE VALLEY HISTORY FESTIVAL

Hear more from Joann at the Chalke Valley Festival's Ancient Egypt talk, sponsored by **All About History**. You can claim a free family ticket to the festival, which takes place from 22-28 June, by subscribing to the magazine. See page 42 to learn more. For further info, visit **www.cvhf.org.uk**

Since the discovery of Nefertiti's bust, archaeologists have scoured the Egyptian desert in search of her resting place. Though no formal identification has been made, one Egyptologist believes she has found Nefertiti's mummy in the tomb of Amenhotep II, the great grandfather of Akhenaten. The mummy, known as 'The Younger Lady', was discovered buried alongside Queen Tiye, Akhenaten's mother, and a young boy, possibly his brother, back in 1898. The discoverer, Victor Loret, originally believed the mummy to be male, but a closer inspection by anatomist Dr Grafton Elliot Smith Tests concluded that it was a woman. The room containing the mummies was then sealed, and had been all but forgotten until 1993, when Egyptologist Joann Fletcher stumbled across one unlikely piece of evidence.

Joann, who at the time was completing a PhD in ancient Egyptian hair, came across a wig in the Cairo Museum that was in the Nubian style - a style favoured by royal women in Akhenaten's court, and particularly by Nefertiti. The wig had been discovered in tomb KV35 - the resting place of the 18th Dynasty pharaoh Amenhotep II. Intrigued as to the ownership of the wig, Joann requested for the sealed chamber to be re-opened.

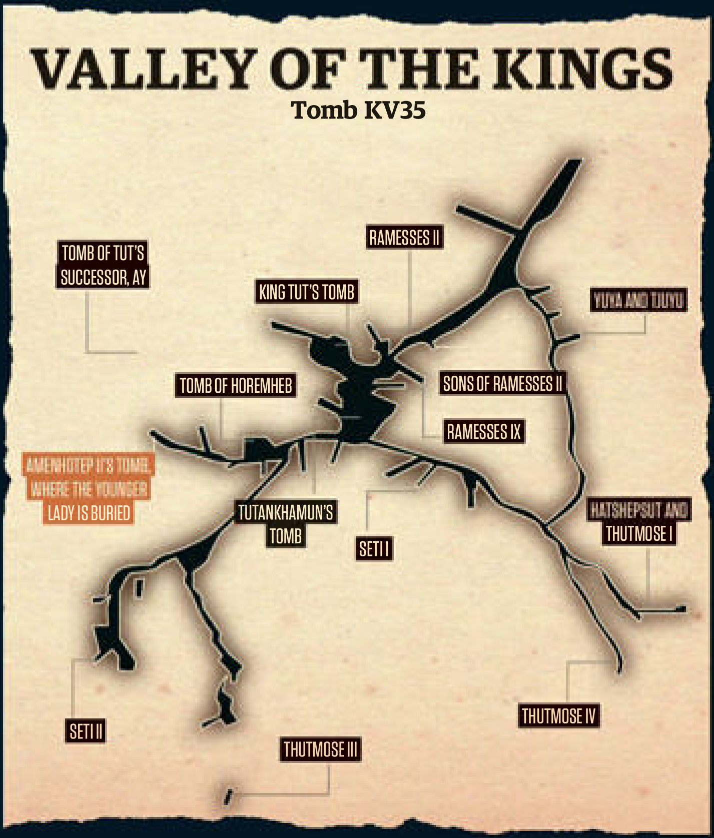
What she discovered within the room was curious to say the least. The only mummy to whom the wig could viably belong was that of the Younger Lady, whose head had been shaved. This lack of hair emphasised a remarkably long neck - one all too familiar to an Egyptologist who had dedicated years to the study of the Amarna period. Further inspections concluded that this mummy was indeed a woman, and one who had died in her twenties or thirties - an age that, should she have survived her husband as the evidence suggests, would fit that of Nefertiti.



A wall painting showing Akhenaten and Nefertiti with their young family

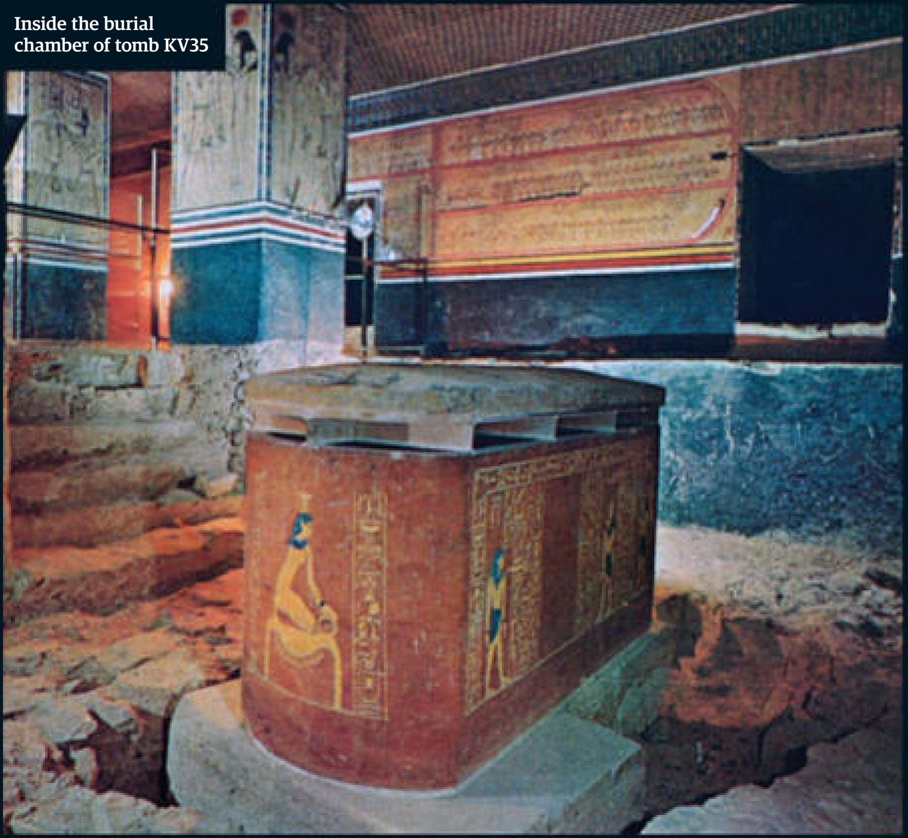
But what was perhaps most intriguing about the Younger Lady was the damage that had been inflicted upon the mummy shortly after its burial. The lower half of its face was completely smashed in - a punishment worse than death if ancient tradition were to be believed. By destroying the mummy's mouth, the spirit of the dead would be unable to speak its name at the doors of the afterlife, condemning it to an eternity of damnation. The mummy's right arm had also been broken off, and what appeared to be its detached and outstretched limb placed beside it. But closer inspection revealed that this arm belonged to someone else entirely - it had been mummified in a different way, and the measurements did not match those of the Younger Lady. In what was to become an astonishing discovery, another arm was found hidden beneath the wrappings of Queen Tiye's mummy. Unlike the first arm, this arm was bent at the elbow and its hand was clasped, indicating that it had been holding a sceptre - the sign of a pharaoh. And it fit the Younger Lady perfectly. Whoever had broken off this arm had clearly wanted to destroy all evidence of this woman's power, and Nefertiti's heresy would have been an understandable motivation.

The claim that the Younger Lady is indeed Nefertiti is one that has been met with strong contention, and one that may never be resolved. But it's hard to deny that the evidence all points to one very clear conclusion.

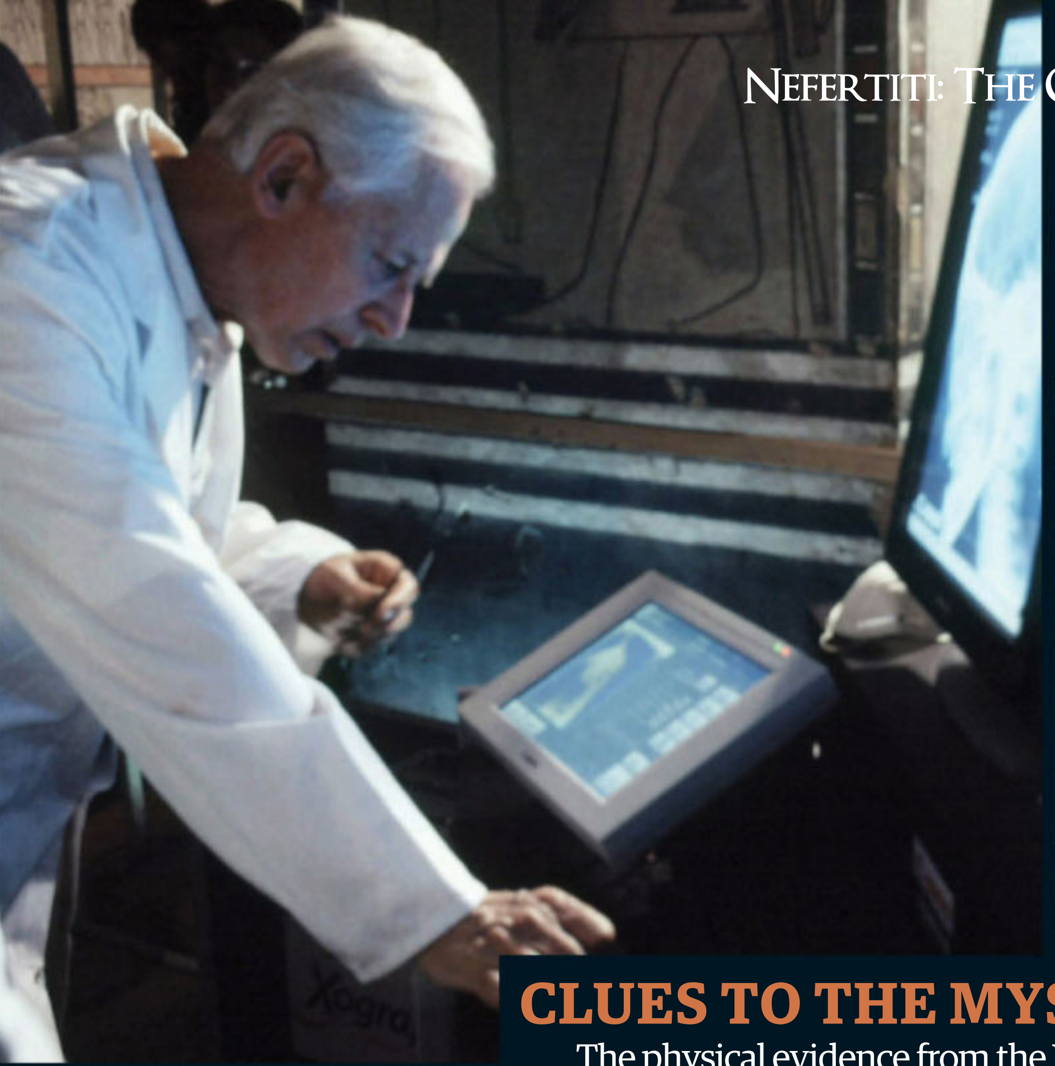


VALLEY OF THE KINGS

Tomb KV35



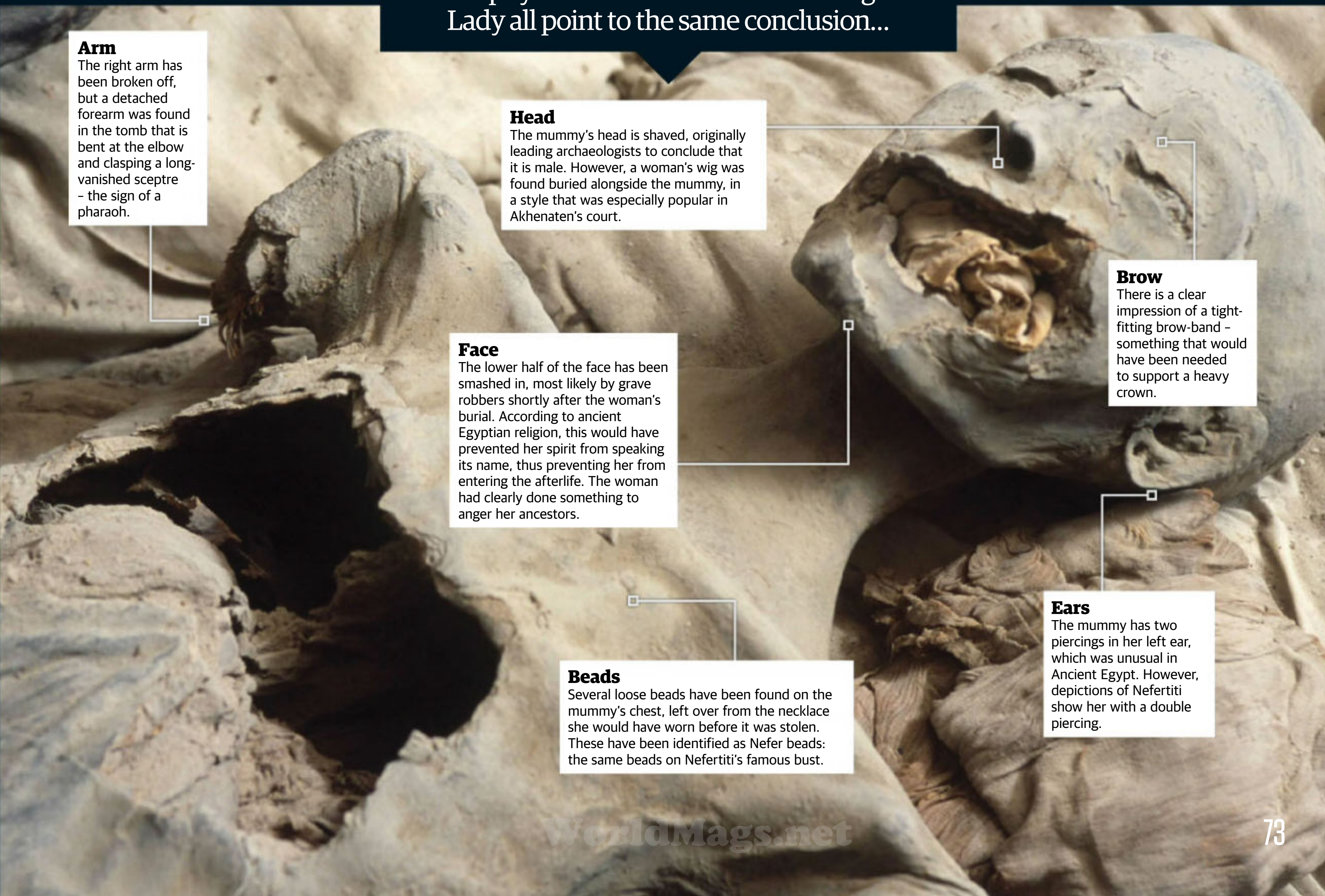
Inside the burial chamber of tomb KV35



Joann Fletcher examining the mummy of the Younger Lady

CLUES TO THE MYSTERY

The physical evidence from the Younger Lady all point to the same conclusion...



Arm
The right arm has been broken off, but a detached forearm was found in the tomb that is bent at the elbow and clasping a long-vanished sceptre – the sign of a pharaoh.

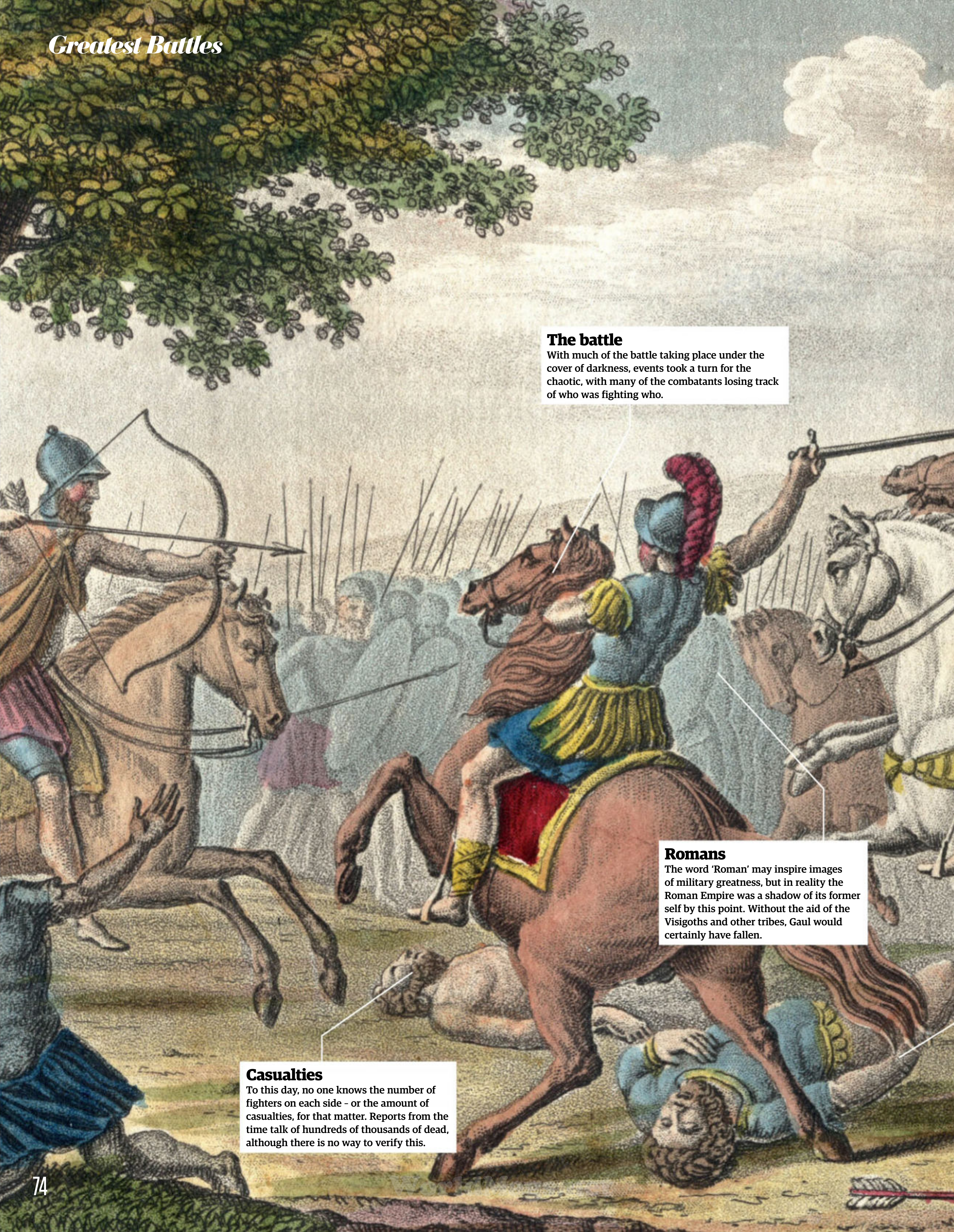
Head
The mummy's head is shaved, originally leading archaeologists to conclude that it is male. However, a woman's wig was found buried alongside the mummy, in a style that was especially popular in Akhenaten's court.

Brow
There is a clear impression of a tight-fitting brow-band – something that would have been needed to support a heavy crown.

Face
The lower half of the face has been smashed in, most likely by grave robbers shortly after the woman's burial. According to ancient Egyptian religion, this would have prevented her spirit from speaking its name, thus preventing her from entering the afterlife. The woman had clearly done something to anger her ancestors.

Ears
The mummy has two piercings in her left ear, which was unusual in Ancient Egypt. However, depictions of Nefertiti show her with a double piercing.

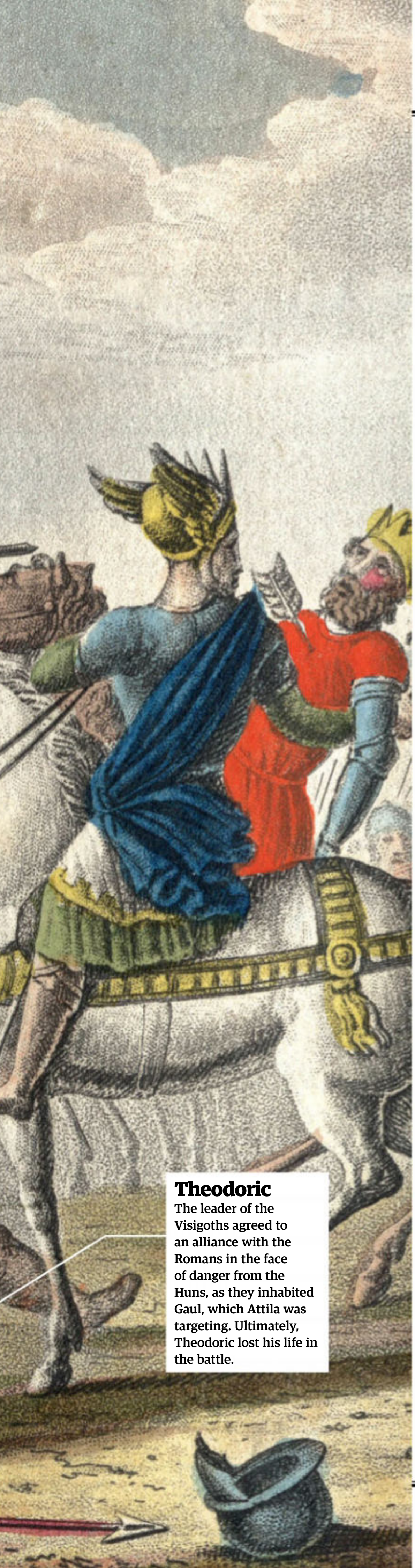
Beads
Several loose beads have been found on the mummy's chest, left over from the necklace she would have worn before it was stolen. These have been identified as Nefer beads: the same beads on Nefertiti's famous bust.



The battle
With much of the battle taking place under the cover of darkness, events took a turn for the chaotic, with many of the combatants losing track of who was fighting who.

Romans
The word 'Roman' may inspire images of military greatness, but in reality the Roman Empire was a shadow of its former self by this point. Without the aid of the Visigoths and other tribes, Gaul would certainly have fallen.

Casualties
To this day, no one knows the number of fighters on each side - or the amount of casualties, for that matter. Reports from the time talk of hundreds of thousands of dead, although there is no way to verify this.



Theodoric
The leader of the Visigoths agreed to an alliance with the Romans in the face of danger from the Huns, as they inhabited Gaul, which Attila was targeting. Ultimately, Theodoric lost his life in the battle.

GREATEST BATTLES

THE CATALAUNIAN PLAINS

CHAMPAGNE-ARDENNE REGION, FRANCE 20 JUNE 451

The Battle of the Catalaunian Plains (or the Battle of Chalons, as it is sometimes referred to) played host to a skirmish between two opponents experiencing varying fortunes. On one side was the Roman Empire, a once-mighty force on the wane in the wake of constant assaults courtesy of increasingly powerful tribes from across Europe. On the other was one of the chief perpetrators of said attacks: Attila the Hun.

Known as 'the scourge of God', Attila and his Huns inspired great fear, and for good reason. He and his tribe were renowned for the manner in which they swept through the eastern Roman Empire, laying waste to all in their path, indiscriminate of age, race or rank. And they were looking for a new target, ultimately settling on Gaul (now France). Although nominally counted as part of the Roman Empire, in actuality it was largely controlled by the Visigoths, who found themselves under threat from Attila. The barbarian rampaged through Gaul, with cities like Cologne, Mainz, Metz, Strasbourg and Rheims falling before the onslaught; he then lay siege to Orleans.

But the Romans had, as their leader, a man capable of facing off with the mighty Attila in battle. Aetius was, by equal measures, a warrior and politician, having won numerous battles as a general, and served as chief political adviser to Valentinian III, the emperor of the western Roman Empire. Having spent large parts of his youth growing up with Visigoths and even the Huns, he knew their ways and habits. This experience, combined with his political and military nous, was to prove vital in not only defeating the latter, but in persuading the former to form an alliance with the Roman empire. Thus, Aetius and his troops, along with an alliance of Visigoths led by King Theodoric I and groups of Alans and Burgundinians, made for Orleans.

As it turned out, they made it just in time, on 14 June, with Orleans on the verge of surrender. Despite the fact that his forces greatly outnumbered the Roman coalition, Attila ordered his troops to retreat in good order, preferring to face them in open battle rather than the confines of the city. Making camp near Chalons, he waited until the cover of darkness. All the while Aetius and his force remained in battle formation. On 20 June, the fighting commenced.

The battle was one of the bloodiest fought of that age. Although Attila took the early upper hand, ploughing through the soft centre of the Alans (purposefully placed there due to their unreliability), the Romans and Visigoths returned fire by attacking the flanks, turning the tide of the battle. With light returning and his life at risk, Attila again withdrew. Exact numbers of the dead (including Theodoric among them) are unknown, although some sources paint the figure as high as 200,000-300,000.

Faced with the opportunity to wipe out the Huns, Aetius stayed his hand. This has been attributed to the fact that the existence of a common foe in the Huns was the only reason their alliance with the Visigoths held, which they still needed to safeguard against further attacks from the Vandals in the south (who themselves had first mooted the idea of invading Gaul to Attila). The Huns would eventually return to ravage Italy, but for now, the future of the eastern Roman Empire was secured – thanks in large part to Aetius, the 'last of the Romans'.

Romans

TROOPS 50-80,000

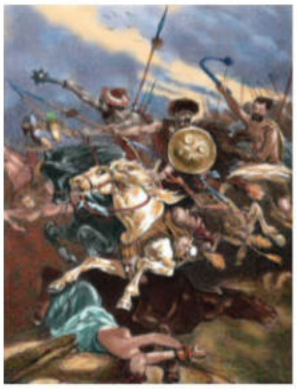
AETIUS

LEADER

A warrior and politician, Aetius was hugely popular, referred to as the 'last of the Romans'.

Strengths Tactically savvy and a strong warrior.

Weakness Outnumbered by the Hun forces.



VISIGOTH CAVALRY

KEY UNIT

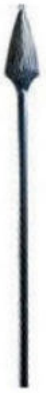
A vital component of the Roman alliance, they would prove to be decisive in the battle ahead.

Strengths Strong and difficult to cut down.

Weakness Could easily trample their own men.

HASTA

KEY WEAPON



A cross between a lance and a spear, the hasta was just one of the weapons employed by the Roman soldiers.

Strengths Useful for fending off assaults by cavalry.

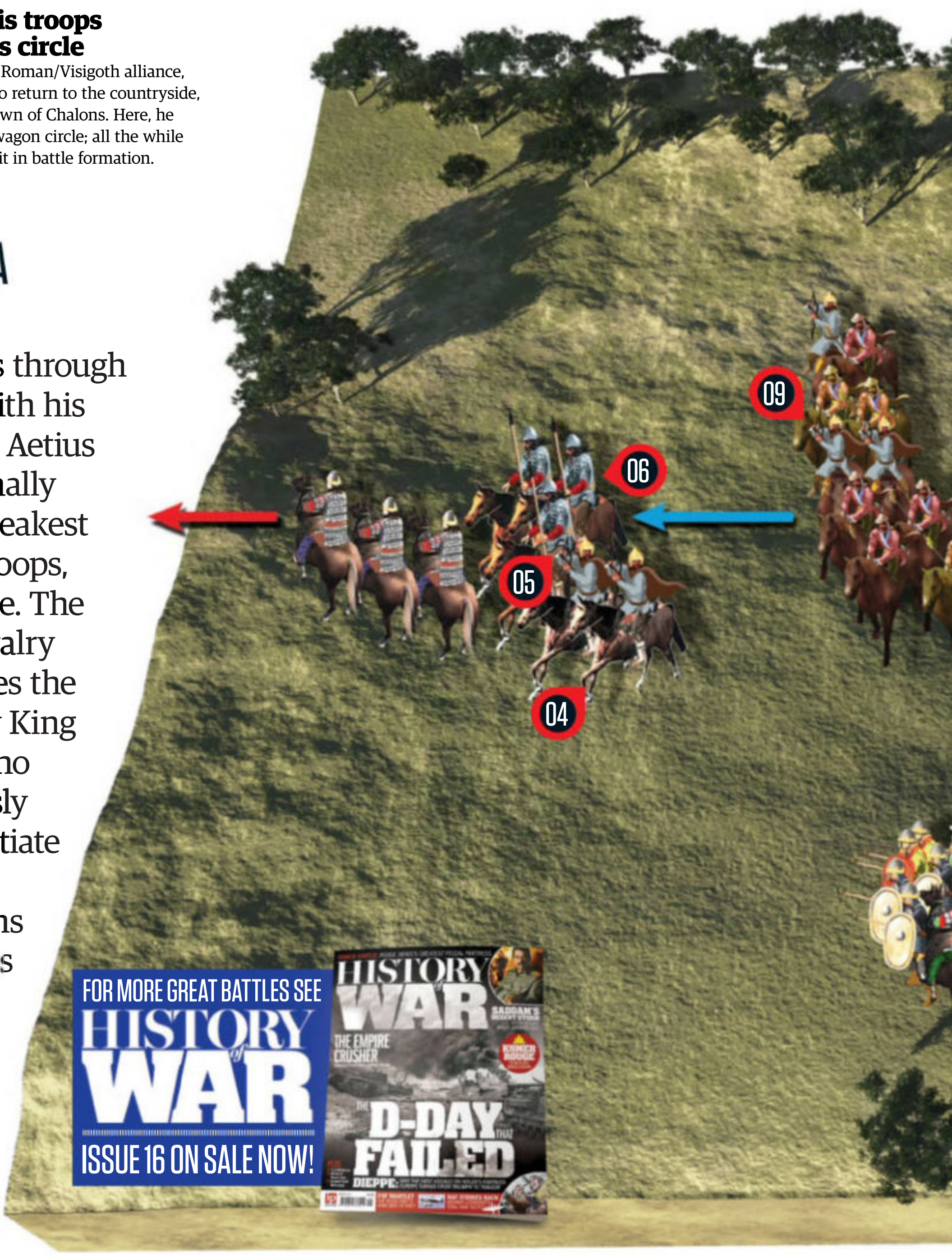
Weakness Could be unwieldy in close-quarters combat.

01 Attila and his troops withdraw to his circle

Seeing the arrival of the Roman/Visigoth alliance, Attila orders his troops to return to the countryside, setting camp near the town of Chalons. Here, he remains inactive in his wagon circle; all the while Aetius and his forces wait in battle formation.

02 ATTILA ATTACKS

Attila attacks through the centre with his Huns, where Aetius has intentionally placed the weakest part of his troops, the Alan tribe. The resulting cavalry charge pushes the Alans, led by King Sangiban (who had previously tried to negotiate a surrender with the Huns while Orleans was under siege) back, with Attila following on in pursuit.



FOR MORE GREAT BATTLES SEE HISTORY of WAR ISSUE 16 ON SALE NOW!

03 Aetius counter-attacks

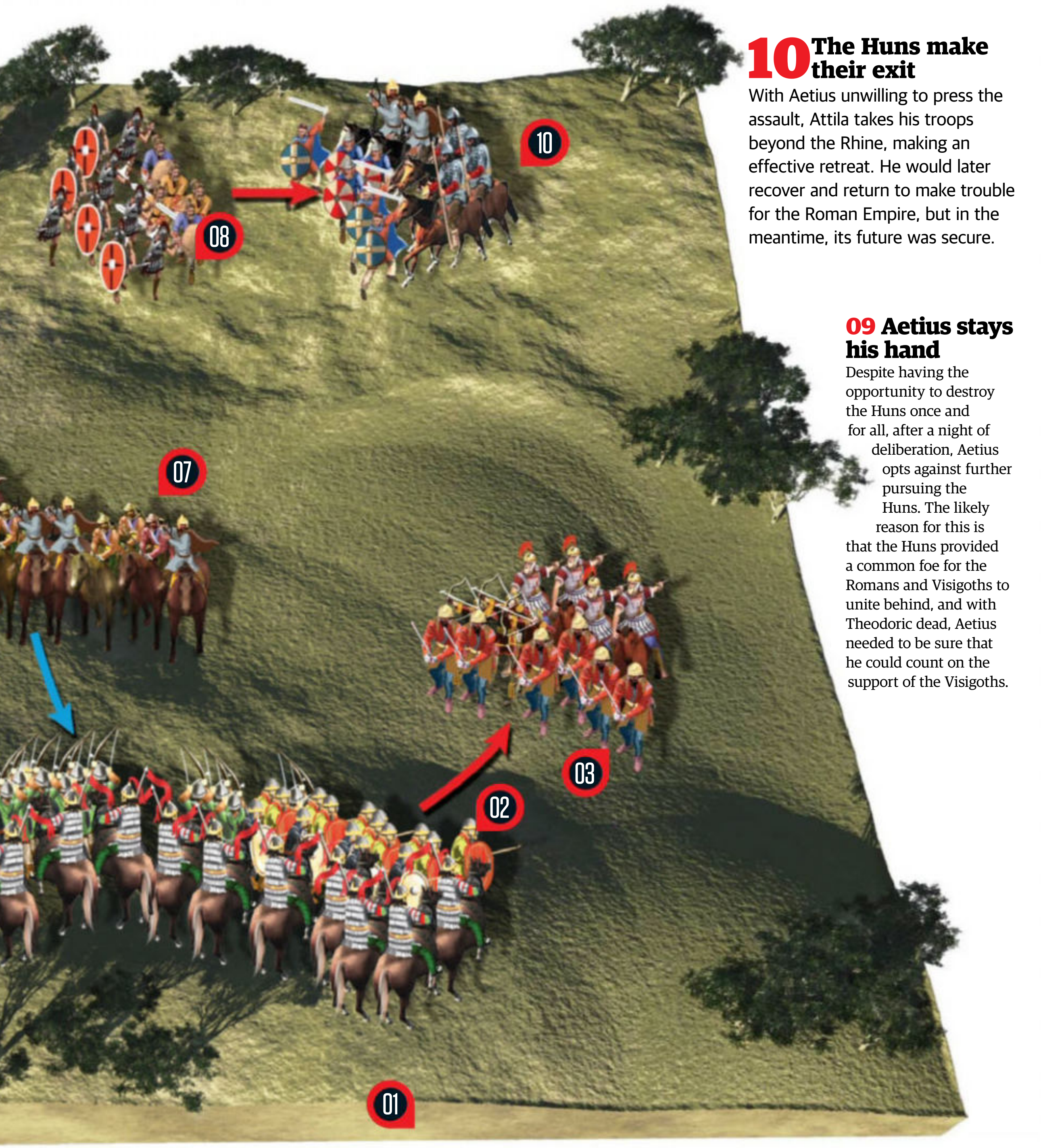
Aetius had kept the bulk of his strength on the flanks – commanding his Roman troops on the left, with Theodoric leading the Visigoths on the right. After Attila's initial assault, the Romans press the attack, attempting to prevent Attila from retreating back to his wagons. Despite assaulting Attila's forces, they lack the numbers to fully overwhelm the Huns.

04 The Visigoths strike

With the battle continuing well into the night, the fighting becomes increasingly desperate. Having initially been held up by strong resistance from the Huns, the Visigoths assault the flanks. Combined with the Roman assault, this turns the tide of the battle in Aetius's favour, with the Huns being pressed on both flanks and hemmed in, and denied the space that they need to fight.

05 THEODORIC IS KILLED

Tragedy strikes for the Visigoths. During the assault, Theodoric is de-horsed, before being trampled and killed by his own men. This was a blow for Aetius, with his strongest ally dead.



06 THE VISIGOTHS FIGHT ON

Despite the loss of their king and leader, the Visigoths fight on with renewed vigour, led by the fallen Theodoric's son, Thorismund. Thirsty for revenge, Thorismund leads a cavalry charge into the midst of Attila's forces, inflicting huge numbers of casualties in the process.

07 Chaos reigns

With the sun having set, there is much confusion, as both forces lose track of who is fighting who. In one instance, Thorismund mistakes the Huns for his own men, and is nearly killed himself as a result.

08 Attila retreats

Seeing that the tide of battle has turned against him and not willing to risk further losses, Attila retreats with his forces to his wagon circle, with his archers covering the retreating troops.

09 Aetius stays his hand

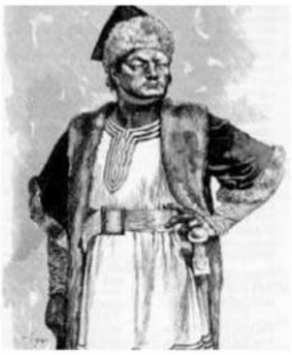
Despite having the opportunity to destroy the Huns once and for all, after a night of deliberation, Aetius opts against further pursuing the Huns. The likely reason for this is that the Huns provided a common foe for the Romans and Visigoths to unite behind, and with Theodoric dead, Aetius needed to be sure that he could count on the support of the Visigoths.

10 The Huns make their exit

With Aetius unwilling to press the assault, Attila takes his troops beyond the Rhine, making an effective retreat. He would later recover and return to make trouble for the Roman Empire, but in the meantime, its future was secure.

Huns

TROOPS 50-80,000



ATTILA

LEADER

One of the most feared military leaders of all time, he was determined to invade Gaul.

Strengths A cunning and strong warrior, commanding a huge force behind him.

Weakness Tactically out-manoeuvred by Aetius.

HUNS

KEY UNIT

One of the most formidable – and feared – tribes in Europe, wherever they went they left destruction in their wake.

Strengths Brave and fearless warriors in battle.

Weakness Gung-ho nature left them liable to be caught out tactically.

BOW AND ARROW

KEY WEAPON

Used to great effect to cover the Hun retreat, they were especially lethal against any mounted cavalry.

Strengths Possesses a good range and lethal in numbers.

Weakness Not as effective in close-quarters combat.

© Nicolle Fuller, Corbis

Bad King John

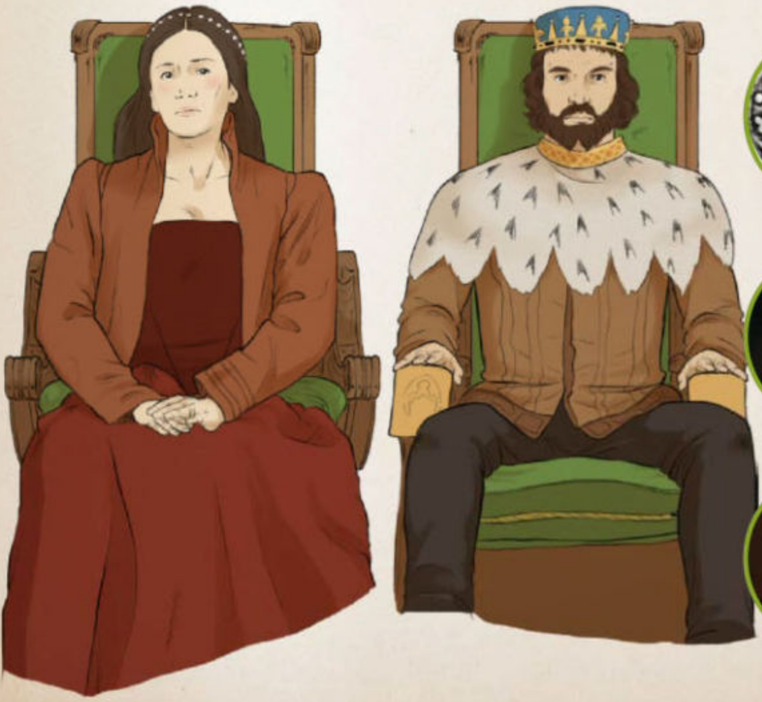
Written by
Dom Reseigh-Lincoln

Reviled and revered in equal measure, King John I of England remains one of history's most provocative rulers. But was he as 'bad' as his enduring moniker suggests?

Much like the equally controversial king Charles I, who would throw his nation into the most devastating civil war in English history, John Lackland was never meant to be king. He entered the world on Christmas Eve 1167, the youngest legitimate son of Henry II of England and Eleanor of Aquitaine. His parents held sway over one of the most intimidating power bases in the world, the Angevin Empire, covering half of France and all of England.

Even from a young age the prince was a cynical and, at times, ruthless character. His tutors would remark on his restless energy and common fits of rage, personality traits that also often flared up in his father. However, unlike the king, these flaws were rarely kept in check, their dark presence forming into cruelty and malice towards those around him. As his childhood began to fade away, his distrust of others grew, along with a deep sense of paranoia.

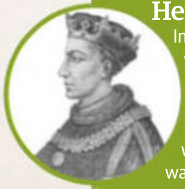
Despite his son's poor standing in the line of succession, Henry was far from uncaring towards his prospects. In 1171, Henry organised a betrothal between John and Alais, the daughter and heiress of Count Humbert III of Savoy. As part of the deal, John would acquire the future inheritance of Savoy, Maurienne and the count's other lands. In order to bolster John's stature, Henry also promised him the castles of Mirabeau, Chinon and Loudun.



The best and worst of British kings and queens

Alfred the Great 871-99

A precursor in some respects to the domestic resolve and foreign success of future kings Henry V and Edward III, Alfred not only defended his kingdom from a number of Viking invasions but also helped revolutionise England's military structure and legal system.

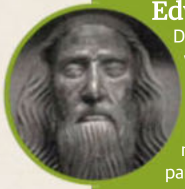


Henry V 1413-22

Immortalised by Shakespeare, Henry V was a rare commodity in the pantheon of Medieval rule. A fair yet direct monarch, Henry's reign was a relatively peaceful one domestically – which allowed him to wage a military career so successful he was named heir apparent to France.

Elizabeth I 1558-1603

When Elizabeth took to the throne in 1558, she inherited a realm deeply fractured by the reformation of her father and the Protestant purge of her sister. Yet, for all those pitfalls, Elizabeth helped usher in a climate of religious reconciliation and a golden age of economic and artistic growth.



Edward III 1327-77

Despite inheriting a kingdom wrought with problems following his father's disastrous reign, Edward III managed the impossible. A series of successful campaigns re-established England as a military stronghold and his overhaul of parliament changed the country forever.

John I 1199-1216

He may not have been the worst monarch in England's history, but a mixture of cruel personality traits, a military campaign that weakened England's hold over Europe and the refusal to honour Magna Carta, which led to civil unrest, saw him earn the moniker 'Bad King John'.

Mary I 1553-58

A palpable air of religious zeal will forever typify the brief reign of Mary Tudor. Her desire to return England to the Old Faith was so blind in its intent it led England into a disastrous alliance with Spain and a fever of public burnings so vicious it made Catholicism shorthand for persecution.

Charles I 1625-49

The almost polar opposite of his father James I, Charles was an introverted monarch easily manipulated by his wife, Henrietta Maria, and his Privy Council. His unwillingness to appease the rise of parliament as a political entity led to a civil war that nearly tore the country apart.

Magna Carta

THE ABRIDGED VERSION

‘The guardian of the land of an heir who is under age shall take from it only reasonable revenues, customary dues, and feudal services. He shall do this without destruction or damage to men or property.’

No one can make money from other people's property.

‘Inquests of novel disseisin, mort d'ancestor, and darrein presentment shall be taken only in their proper county court.’

Property disputes should be settled in court.

‘No free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor will we proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by the lawful judgement of his equals or by the law of the land.’

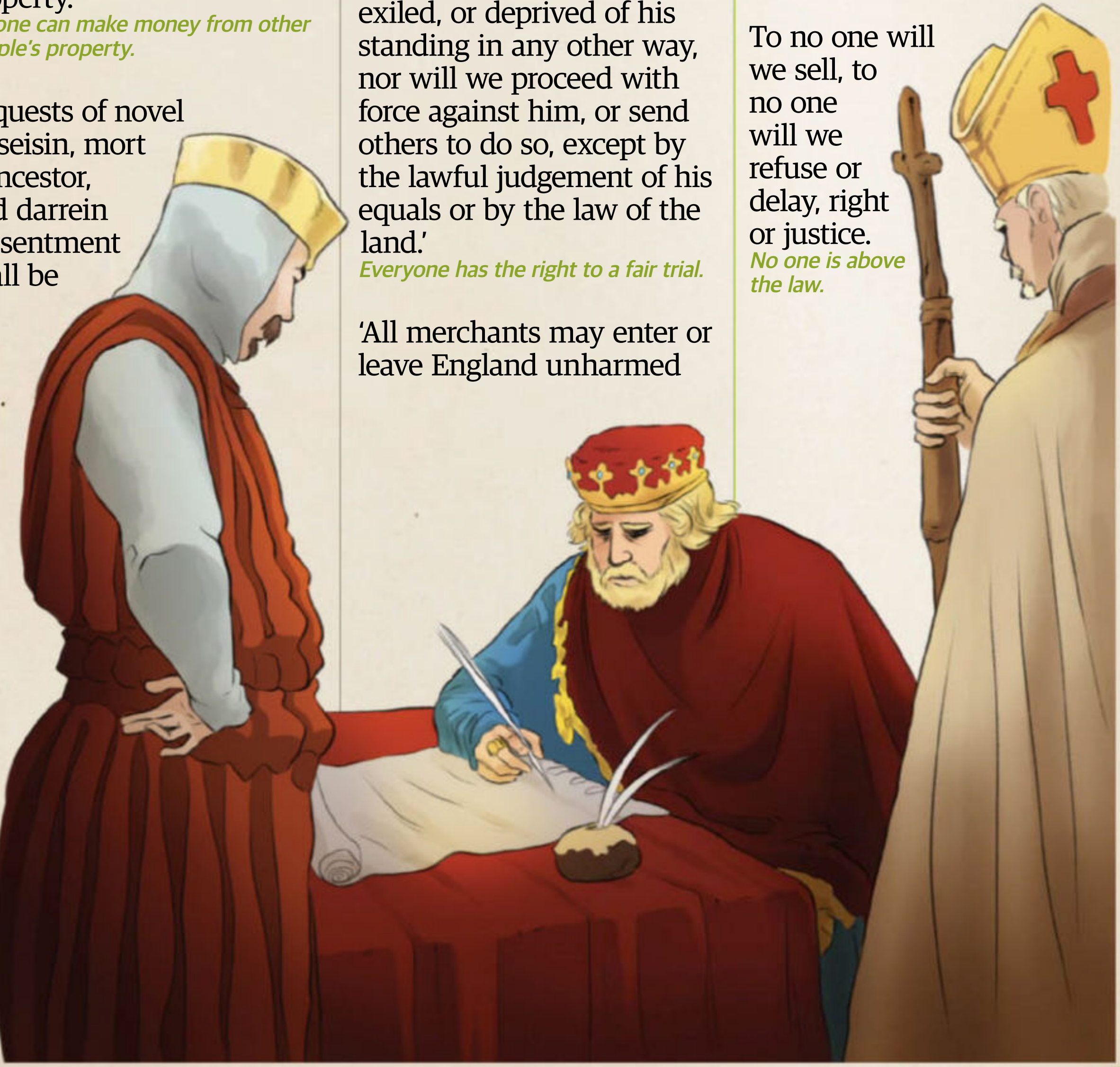
Everyone has the right to a fair trial.

‘All merchants may enter or leave England unharmed and without fear, and may stay or travel within it, by land or water, for purposes of trade, free from all illegal exactions, in accordance with ancient and lawful customs.’

Merchants can travel and trade freely.

To no one will we sell, to no one will we refuse or delay, right or justice.

No one is above the law.



This move to legitimise John as part of royal strata did not best please his oldest brother and heir to the throne, Henry the Younger. The disgruntled heir apparent fumed at the idea of lands and castles that should eventually pass to him being divvied up among his siblings. Yet, despite gaining a potential foothold in the politics of Medieval Europe, John's run of good fortune ran out when Alais died before they could marry. As fast at it had formed, John's potential inheritance was obliterated.

In 1173, the disenfranchised Henry the Younger, backed by his mother Eleanor, made a vie for power. With his brothers Geoffrey and Richard encouraged to join him, the move sparked a brief series of rebellions between 1173 and 1174. Henry II would eventually bring the rebellions to an end, but the uprisings proved just how cannibalistic a royal family could become if the balance of power was shifted too far.

Henry the Younger, for all his posturing, would retain his place as the English king's heir apparent, but it would be John that would benefit most from the conflict. As the revolts were raging across the region, the young John joined the king at his side. Despite his rebellious nature, John clearly understood the importance of showing allegiance to his father. Within months of the rebellion's beginnings, the king could often be found proclaiming that John was his favourite child, and began granting the young prince lands and titles across England and Normany. In 1175, King Henry took this one step further by arranging a new betrothal, this time to Isabella of Gloucester, the wealthy daughter of the Duke of Gloucester.

In 1177, when John was a mere ten years old, Henry decided that he would grant his youngest son a position of tangible power and appointed him Lord of Ireland. When John arrived on Irish soil eight years later with a contingent of 300 knights and a council of administrators, he found a country still sore from the strains of an Anglo-Norman occupation. This was a scenario that the 18-year-old John would only make worse – as soon as he landed he went about insulting most of the Irish nobles he met, belittling their long beards and clothes, and failing to make valuable allies with the Anglo-Norman settlers. Before the year was over, John had been driven out, his first attempt at power ending in abject humiliation.

Elsewhere, the House of Plantagenet was in disarray. Henry the Younger, now Junior King of England, and his younger brother Richard, who had supported him in his rebellion against their father, had come to blows over the future of the kingdom. But Henry the Young King would succumb to dysentery in 1183 aged 28, with his father officially recognising Richard as his legitimate heir. As part of this reshuffling of positions, John's older brother Geoffrey would retain power in Brittany and John would be made Duke of Aquitaine.

Three years later, Geoffrey was killed in a jousting tournament, bringing John one step closer to the throne. With their father in ill health, and his own desire to lead a new crusade in the Holy Land growing with each passing season, Richard feared Henry would appoint John king in his absence, so he formed an alliance with the French king Philip II in 1187 and waged war against his father's remaining forces. John initially remained faithful to his father, but eventually switched sides when Richard's resilience began to win out.

Henry II, King of England, died on 6 July 1189 and Richard ascended the throne soon after. The next decade saw John embrace the ruthlessness that had typified his youth. While Richard conducted the Third Crusade from 1189 to 1192, John conspired to replace the man who governed England in his absence, Richard's steward and justicar, William Longchamp. Richard's justiciar was unpopular with the people and the nobles alike, so John positioned himself as an alternative steward of the English throne. When Richard failed to return from the crusade as expected, John began spreading propaganda that the Lionheart had died in battle, presenting himself as the only true claimant to the crown.

In reality, Richard had been taken hostage by Holy Roman Emperor Henry VI. Knowing that his brother still remained immensely popular with the nobility, John had no choice but to pay the extortionate ransom to release the king. Upon his release in 1194, Richard openly forgave John for his attempts to overthrow him but stripped him of all his lands, with the exception of his lordship in Ireland. It was a prime example of the relationship that existed between the two brothers – one the dashing absentee king riding the wave of adulation

that came with new foreign conquests, the other a paranoid bureaucrat more concerned with the machinations of his kingdom's inner workings. Still, John remained relatively loyal to Richard for the remainder of the Lionheart's reign until his death on 6 April 1199.

John ascended the English throne and became the head of the Angevin Empire at the age of 32, but his succession wouldn't be without obstacles. Arthur of Brittany, the eldest son of his brother Geoffrey, had a stronger claim to the throne, but Richard had openly named John as his heir in the final years of his reign. Unfortunately, as with every succession in the Middle Ages, even the smallest claim could divide a kingdom. John's coronation took place in Westminster on 27 May 1199, with the majority of the nobility in England and Normandy backing his claim and recognising his kingship. Arthur, on the other hand, had the backing of Breton, Anjou and Maine nobles, as well as the support of Philip II. The shrewd French monarch was doing everything he could to undermine the Angevin Empire that John's father had worked so hard to maintain.

John would, after fortifying defences along the borders of Normandy and renewing alliances with Count Baldwin of Flanders and Renaud of Boulogne, eventually hold back Arthur and Philip's advances, forcing a truce in January 1200. The treaty would become one of John's defining moments as a ruler. As part of the agreement, Philip renounced his support of Arthur's claim and recognised John as the rightful successor of Richard and ruler of his Angevin lands. In turn, John agreed to break his alliance with Flanders and Boulogne and accept Philip as the unchallenged overlord of his French holdings. Such a move was incredibly unpopular across England and the Angevin territories, earning him the title of 'John Softsword' among his other people.

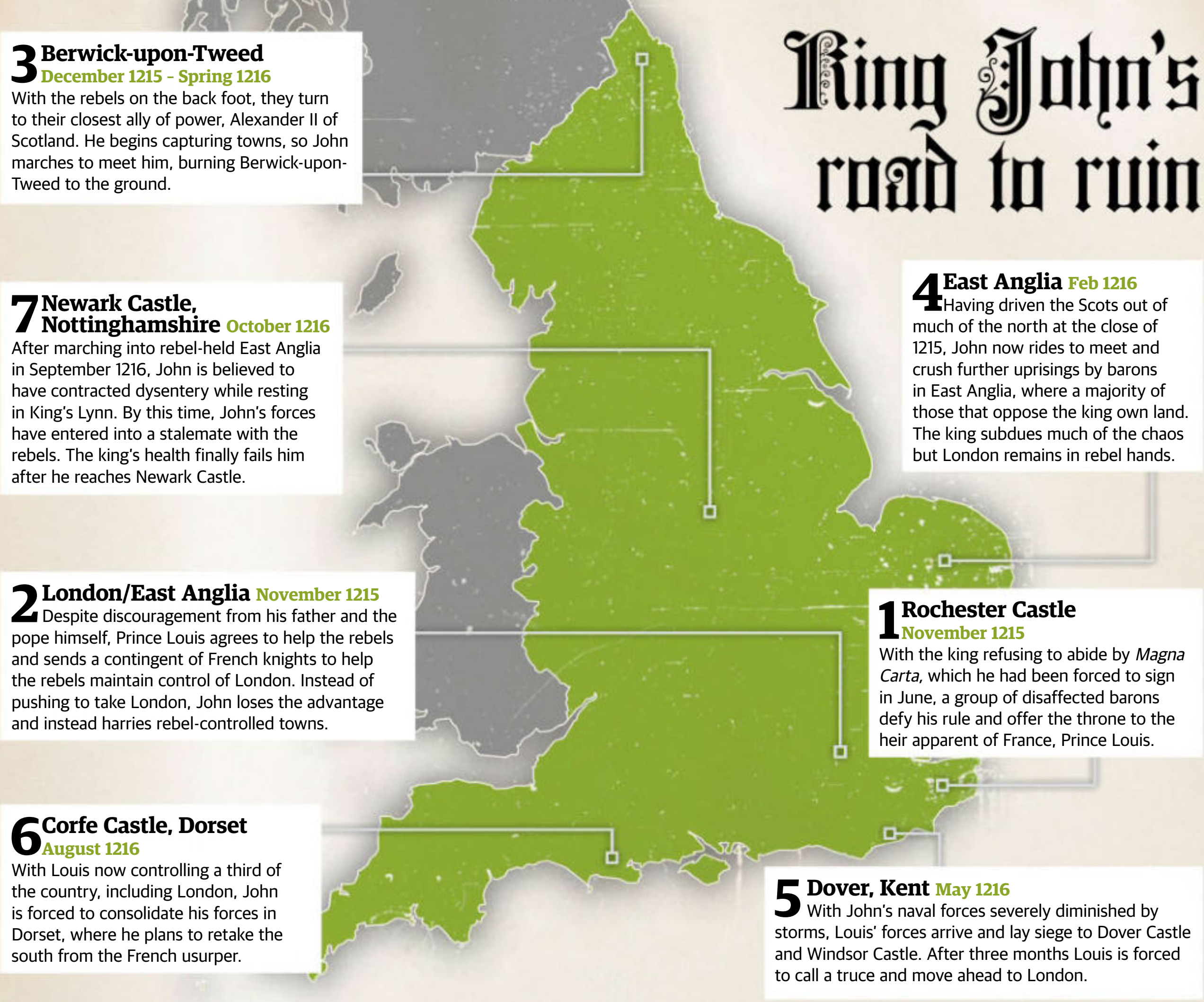
The peace would last a mere two years. John had become obsessed with the 12-year-old daughter of Count Aymer of Angouleme, Isabella. He had his marriage to Isabella of Gloucester annulled and married the girl in August 1200, sparking the conflict anew. Isabella had been promised to the powerful French noble Hugh de Lusignan and the jilted ex-fiancé turned to the manipulative Philip II for help.

John was summoned to the French court to answer for his actions (including rumours that he'd captured and murdered his nephew and former rival, Arthur of Brittany). John, ever the firebrand, refused to cooperate and Philip stripped him of almost all his foreign lands and proceeded to invade Normandy. Chateau Gaillard, John's nigh on impregnable castle, fell following a long and bloody siege in 1203, and most of Normandy fell soon after. His funds exhausted, John was forced to flee back to England, the Plantagenet's hold over Europe finally broken.

The king soon turned his attention to more domestic matters of state, a role that his father had revelled in during his younger years. Unlike his father, John paid little heed to the nobles and leaders that he crossed as part of his administrative duties as king, but he did excel at the bureaucratic management of his kingdom. His interference in the election of the new Archbishop of Canterbury in 1205, however, would provoke the ire of the pope himself, with the pontiff placing an interdict that forbade church services from taking place in England for six years, as well as excommunicating the troublesome king for his continued belligerence.

With the immolation of the Angevin Empire still fresh in the mind of the nobles and barons, and the nation in a state of religious turmoil, John wisely agreed a treaty with the pope in 1213. However, unfortunately for John, the damage had already been done and the disgruntled barons had had their fill of a king who would answer to no one but himself. Faced with the prospect of an armed revolt that could tear the kingdom asunder, John had no choice but to sign a renewed version of Henry I's Coronation Charter on 15 June 1215. Known as

King John's road to ruin



1 Rochester Castle November 1215
With the king refusing to abide by *Magna Carta,* which he had been forced to sign in June, a group of disaffected barons defy his rule and offer the throne to the heir apparent of France, Prince Louis.

2 London/East Anglia November 1215
Despite discouragement from his father and the pope himself, Prince Louis agrees to help the rebels and sends a contingent of French knights to help the rebels maintain control of London. Instead of pushing to take London, John loses the advantage and instead harries rebel-controlled towns.

3 Berwick-upon-Tweed December 1215 – Spring 1216
With the rebels on the back foot, they turn to their closest ally of power, Alexander II of Scotland. He begins capturing towns, so John marches to meet him, burning Berwick-upon-Tweed to the ground.

4 East Anglia Feb 1216
Having driven the Scots out of much of the north at the close of 1215, John now rides to meet and crush further uprisings by barons in East Anglia, where a majority of those that oppose the king own land. The king subdues much of the chaos but London remains in rebel hands.

5 Dover, Kent May 1216
With John's naval forces severely diminished by storms, Louis' forces arrive and lay siege to Dover Castle and Windsor Castle. After three months Louis is forced to call a truce and move ahead to London.

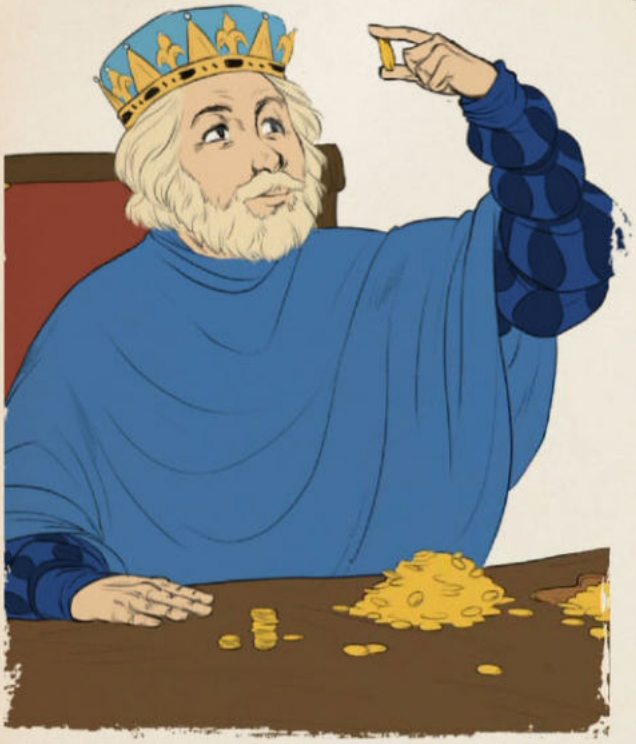
6 Corfe Castle, Dorset August 1216
With Louis now controlling a third of the country, including London, John is forced to consolidate his forces in Dorset, where he plans to retake the south from the French usurper.

7 Newark Castle, Nottinghamshire October 1216
After marching into rebel-held East Anglia in September 1216, John is believed to have contracted dysentery while resting in King's Lynn. By this time, John's forces have entered into a stalemate with the rebels. The king's health finally fails him after he reaches Newark Castle.

Magna Carta, the document reiterated the king's responsibility to his subjects and his lands. Rather than being designed to bind the king, *Magna Carta* was created to uphold the liberties of England's citizens.

Such a moment was meant to be one of peace, a triumph for civil liberties among the seemingly endless strife that had dogged England since Richard the Lionheart's death and his malicious brother John's ascension. But the king had only signed the treaty to placate his nobles. After all his clashes with the Vatican, John now turned to the new pontiff, Pope Innocent III, for help. John placed himself at his mercy, proclaiming the charter an infringement of the 1213 agreement that deemed the pope as John's feudal lord. Pope Innocent was inclined to agree, calling the charter "not only shameful and demeaning, but illegal and unjust." He then excommunicated the barons involved in forcing John to sign, plunging the country into the civil conflict known as the First Barons' War.

So why did only the barons, members of England's elite class, decide to rebel against the king? The answer lies in John's approach to taxation. For all his faults he was a shrewd administrator who knew the only way to fund his exhaustive wars on the continent was to levy taxes on the rich.



The most lucrative tool that John used to gather funds was 'scutage'. All barons were sworn to serve in military campaigns as part of their royal fealty, but these moneyed individuals could pay a feudal aid that released them from this duty if they did not wish to fight. This tax remained relatively unchanged under the reign of John's brother Richard I, but his successor increased it from one marc (the unit of taxation used at the time, roughly equivalent to two thirds of a Medieval pound and about £4,000-£5,000 in modern Sterling) to a staggering two marcs. The fact that John forced this tax through even when the nation wasn't at war was the splinter that would eventually lead his gentry to revolt.

The rebellion lasted for two years, fuelled by the barons' desire to finally bring their wayward king to heel and by the support of Prince Louis, the heir apparent of Philip II. Ironically, it was a conflict neither side particularly wanted to fight. The barons certainly had no desire to throw their nation into turmoil – the fact that they were forced to turn to an overzealous prince to escalate matters proves that the gentry had been backed into a political corner. In fact, Louis' presence in England and the presence of a formidable French invasion force ended up posing as much of a threat to the infrastructure of England as John did.

By the time of his death in October 1216, reportedly from dysentery, the same illness that claimed his eldest brother Henry, John had left the kingdom he inherited a shadow of its former self. The Angevin Empire of his predecessors had collapsed under poor political decisions and failed military campaigns, and England's standing with its neighbours and rivals was significantly diminished. Its funds had been drained and his inadequacies as a leader and a commander had left a once powerful nation wide open to invasion.

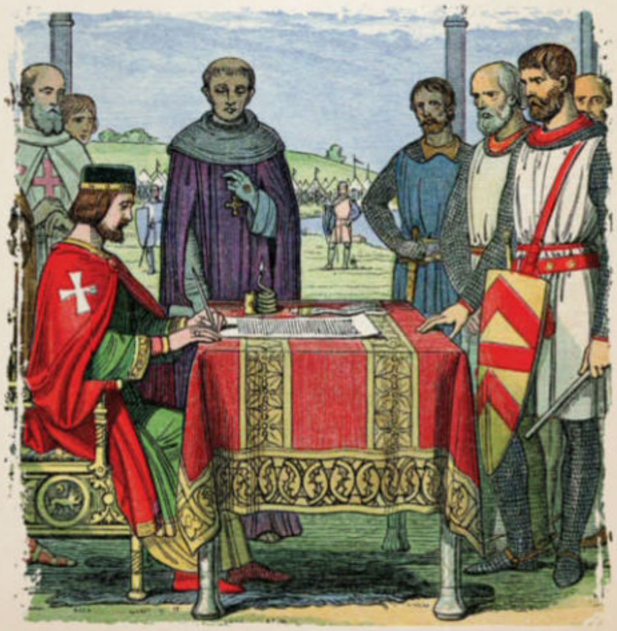
How did Magna Carta change England?

Professor Scott Davidson

Scott Davidson is the deputy vice chancellor for teaching quality and student experience at the University of Lincoln. He is a legal scholar and historian specialising in international law and human rights. He holds a degree of the Doctor of Laws from Canterbury University, New Zealand.

"*Magna Carta* is perhaps better known for what people think it says rather than what it actually says, but there is no doubt that it has had a profound effect on the constitutional law of England and beyond, particularly in the United States of America. Many of the ideas and principles that we take for granted today have their seeds in the *Great Charter*. The requirement that the monarch must call an 'assembly of the realm' to debate tax increases provides a glimpse of the origins of parliament, while the incipient ideas of due process of law, the preservation of property rights and the right to protection of the person can be discerned in *Magna Carta*. The words of Chapter 40, which declares 'to no one will we sell, to no one deny or delay right or justice,' , still resonate in the law of England today."

Yet for all his mistakes, most fuelled by his telltale ruthlessness, John did have some positive impacts on his realm. Record keeping and administrative duties maintained in his father's reign flourished under John's stewardship, as did the judicial system. John showed a great interest in the proliferation of justice, with the royal courts becoming more involved in regional cases than ever before. Sadly, such improvements to Medieval life have long been buried beneath the actions of men too flawed to rule.



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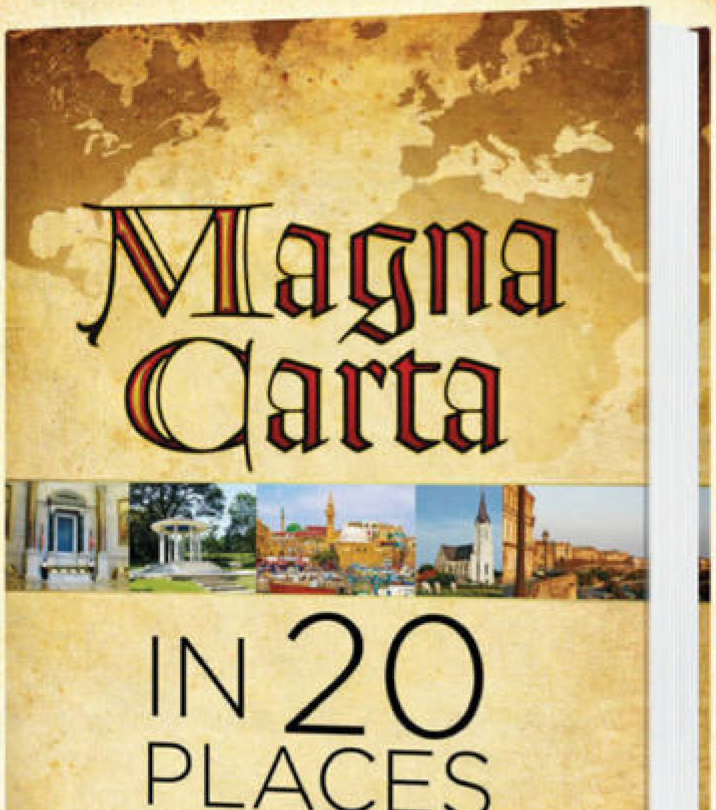
Magna Carta


Magna Carta
IN 20 PLACES
DEREK J. TAYLOR

AN EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY, REVEALING THE TRUTH ABOUT A DOCUMENT THAT

CHANGED THE WORLD

MAGNA CARTA
IN 20 PLACES
DEREK J. TAYLOR

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REVIEWS

All About History on the books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world

THE SAGE OF WATERLOO

The battle of Waterloo through the eyes of a rabbit

Author Leona Francombe **Publisher** WW Norton **Price** £11.99 **Released** June 2015

Animals play a rich part in the history of literature. From *Wind In The Willows* to *Watership Down*, authors through the ages have delighted in bringing voiceless creatures to life. Despite this, only *Black Beauty* and *War Horse* spring to mind as a books written from a first person - or animal - perspective. It can be speculated that this is because of the difficulty of being able to truly delve into the mind of a being that we know so little about. While it's easy to say Mr Toad looked sad, it is a whole new challenge to say what he truly felt. This, however, is the challenge Leona Francombe set herself in her debut novel, *The Sage Of Waterloo*. The book follows the life of the story's narrator, William, who lives at Hougoumont Farm, the setting of one of the most crucial clashes of the Battle of Waterloo.

The rabbits in this story live today but connect to their ancestors from two centuries earlier by listening to the wind in the trees and passing down the stories through the generations. While it is easy to scoff at the idea that mere animals are able to read the echoes of the past, Francombe puts a good case forward that animals are much more in tune with nature than we are.

William, the protagonist of Francombe's story, is a rare white rabbit who is one of the few in the group, along with the matriarch Old Lavender, who has this ability to see what really went on in an otherwise nondescript Belgian town 200 years ago.

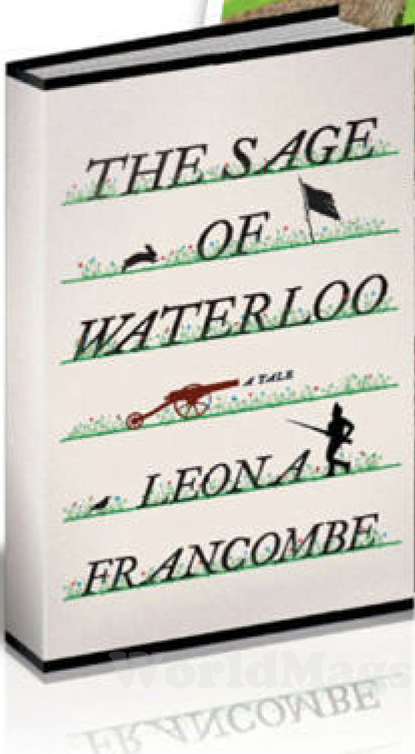
William's tale is mostly concerned with life on the farm, now neglected save for the tourists who occasionally come to gaze on the site of Napoleon's defeat at the hands of Wellington. The pace is generally quite slow but every now and again bursts into life with unexpected action, cleverly mimicking the nature of rabbits. The constant thread of mystery about the past, both recent and distant, keeps the reader enthralled throughout. Francombe intersperses her novel with flashbacks to the battle, which get stronger and more descriptive as William becomes more comfortable with his gift. These detailed passages are crucial to the book, because otherwise it would be a little like a magician building up a magic trick and not providing the final flourish of revealing your card. A few liberties may have been taken with the truth for dramatic effect, but overall Francombe has successfully created a rich account of the trials and tribulations of the battle.

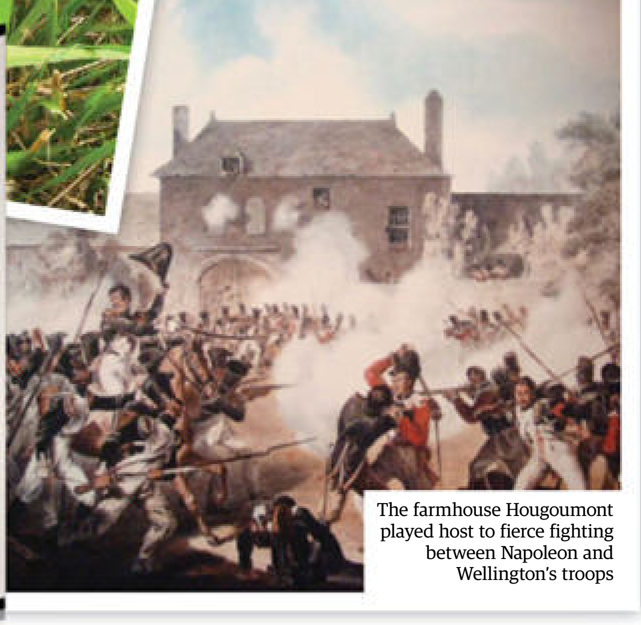
However, Francombe's narrative does occasionally ring a little false. At times she makes William a little too human, at one point casually mentioning the probability of his family member being eaten with cranberry sauce and potatoes. There is also pretty much no mention of the actual rabbits that lived at Hougoumont during the battle, something that would have provided an issue-free link with the past that didn't rely on reading the wind.

Overall, this is an enjoyable, easily readable book, albeit with quite a bizarre premise. It's unlikely to enter the pantheon of great animal literature, but is an entertaining, unique take on a key event in human history.

Jamie Frier

> "The constant thread of mystery keeps the reader enthralled"





The farmhouse Hougoumont played host to fierce fighting between Napoleon and Wellington's troops

WOMEN WHO RULED Balancing the history books

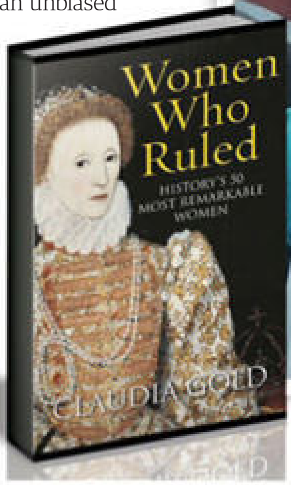
Author Claudia Gold **Publisher** Quercus Books **Price** £9.99 **Released** Out now

From the Egyptian Queen Hatshepsut living in 15th century BCE to the prime minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto in the last century, *Women Who Ruled* provides 50 profiles of women who have risen to political and social power. While it was previously printed as 'Queen, Empress, Concubine', if we're honest, we much prefer the current title. It's certainly not a book for those with more knowledge on the subject, with its lack of notations, bibliography, and further reading (there *is* a short list, but it's limited). Instead, *Women Who Ruled* seems to be more of an engaging, dip in/dip out kind of reassurance that yes, women have been involved throughout every age of human history.

The documented history of humankind has been poorly balanced in its representation of the sexes, and while there are a few entries here that seem as though they're a little too open-minded, the interpretation of historical events is being given a balancing weight. Was Bathsheba raped by King David, or was she manipulating him for power? Was Catherine de Médici a pagan, poisoner or social mastermind? In a great deal of history, we simply do not have the truest version of events, and by casting a wide net of theories and provoking discussion, we are much more likely to arrive at some more genuine version of what actually happened. So, in these few points where *Women Who Ruled* does not maintain – or, indeed, even attempt to maintain – a clinical, objective viewpoint, there is something about it that is forgivable. Perhaps that it sits in the overwhelming company of texts that glorify and celebrate the often-exaggerated achievements of individual men, perhaps it is simply the passion and enthusiasm that Gold shows for the subject and the compelling and engaging arguments she makes.

So *Women Who Ruled* is not an unbiased textbook with as many footnotes as there are paragraphs, but it *is* a fantastic insight into the many and varied ways that women have risen to rule. It is an excellent jumping-off point for more individual research, and it is also something of a refreshing reminder that not all historians, ancient historians especially, were so poor in their record-keeping as to exclude the agency of half of society.

Rebecca Richards



In 1988, Benazir Bhutto became the first woman elected to lead an Islamic country's government

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PABLO Get personal with Picasso

Author Julie Birmant, Clément Oubrerie (trans. Edward Gauvin)
Publisher SelfMadeHero **Price** £16.99 **Released** Out now

Picasso's life is notorious – from his art to his lifestyle, history tells us that his life was that of a true creative – and this illustrated graphic novel presents a unique perspective on the defining moment of Picasso's life.

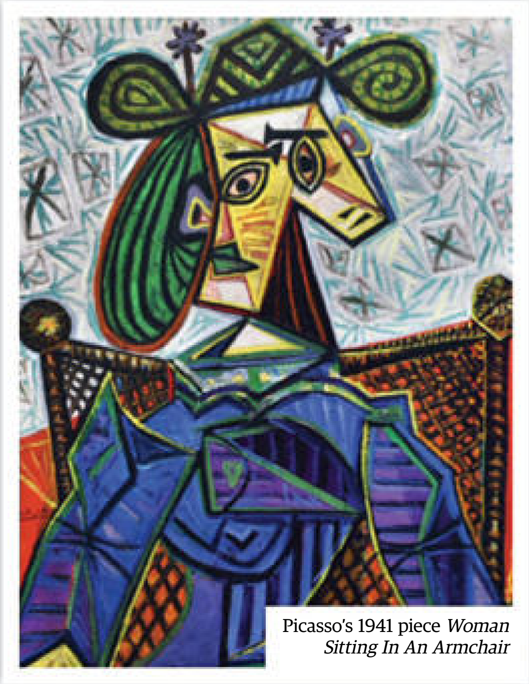
Pablo's narrative is told from the point of view of his long-time lover and muse Fernande Olivier. She begins by explaining her life, from escaping an abusive husband to her newfound independence as a model in Paris, where she meets Picasso. From here, their lives are intertwined – his misery, frustrations and mania are all seen through Fernande's eyes, providing a reasoning and personal voice that you'd struggle to find in other biographies. What is ultimately a short illustrated story still takes as long to read as a wordy novel of equal length; with such detailed illustrations, you spend as long exploring each page as you would reading written words. Each box is filled with quirky details, from expressions on characters' faces to breath-taking depictions of the Sacré-Cœur, re-creations of Picasso's paintings, and the subtle shading on a nude's figure. Every time you glance back to a page, more details appear, drawing you back in.

PABLO
J. Birmant
C. Oubrerie

Perhaps one disappointing element of *Pablo*, however, is the fact that Birmant and Oubrerie's illustrative style is more reminiscent of Picasso's Rose period rather than his infamous Cubist art. It makes sense, of course – after all, we're looking at Picasso's life with Fernande, which was predominantly before he approached modern art. By the end of the graphic novel, however, Picasso has embraced Cubism. But it would have been a nice touch for the artistic style of the novel to echo Picasso's development.

If you're looking for something neutral and objective about Picasso, you're barking up the wrong tree with *Pablo* – what you've got here is a romantic, personal perspective of an artist that truly shook the foundations of art history. Frankly, nothing less than personal could truly explain the genius of Picasso.

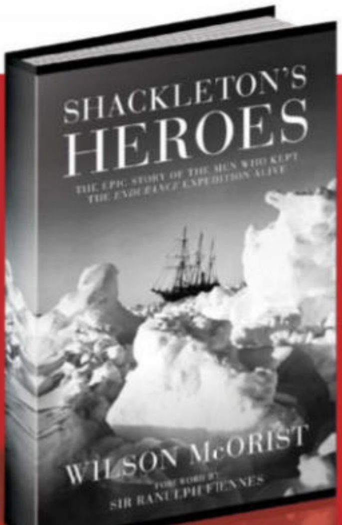
Philippa Grafton


Picasso's 1941 piece *Woman Sitting In An Armchair*

SHACKLETON'S HEROES

Survival of the South Pole's unsung heroes

Author Wilson McOrist **Publisher** The Robson Press **Price** £20 (hardback) **Released** Out now


SHACKLETON'S
HEROES
THE EPIC STORY OF THE MEN WHO KEPT
THE ENDURANCE EXPEDITION ALIVE
WILSON McORIST
FOREWORD BY
SIR RANULPH FIENNES

After eight years of research, physicist and lawyer Wilson McOrist has pieced together the memories of the explorers at one of the last great frontiers of the 20th century. It's not the story of Sir Ernest Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic expedition, however. This is the tale of those who braved one of the world's most hostile environments to leave supplies for Shackleton.

Key to McOrist's book are the diaries of the men involved, without which it would feel distinctly less personal. Their characters are summarised, events explained and the nuances of the language they use (that, given the class differences and backgrounds of the men, can vary greatly) are parsed for the sake of modern understanding, but that's no replacement for the authenticity of their own words. So, for the best part, McOrist allows them to tell the story themselves.

And what a story. In the awful hardships that followed their arrival at their Antarctic base camp, personalities clash, tempers fray and morale spikes then dips with terrible sub-zero temperatures. As the men are worn down by conditions that early-20th-century technology couldn't hope to mitigate, a myriad of coping mechanisms are detailed in their diaries, from religious faith to the promise of seeing a loved one's face again.

Forget Bear Grylls or any reality TV island show: there was no time-out or easy exit when the going got too tough for these guys. This is a story of a real struggle to survive, and McOrist's efforts to give each a voice after a century of silence has paid off with a gripping read.

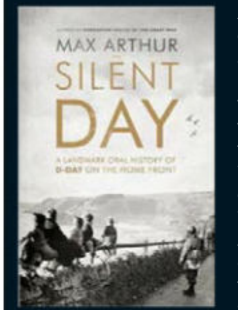
Ben Biggs

Ernest Shackleton led three expeditions to the Antarctic between 1901 and 1917

HISTORY of WAR RECOMMENDS...

The Silent Day

Author: Max Arthur **Price:** £9.99
Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton



A master of collating oral accounts, Max Arthur turns his talents to 6 June 1944, when, overnight, 160,000 Allied troops disappeared from these shores to embark on the D-Day landings. A further 24,000 had left shortly before to launch the Allies' paratrooper missions. A peculiar emptiness fell across the land.

The Silent Day is a vital store of evidence for historians and sociologists and is a book into which the enthusiast might enjoyably dip; every page features fascinating insights.

FRANCE 1940:

DEFENDING THE REPUBLIC

A captivating new take on the fall of France

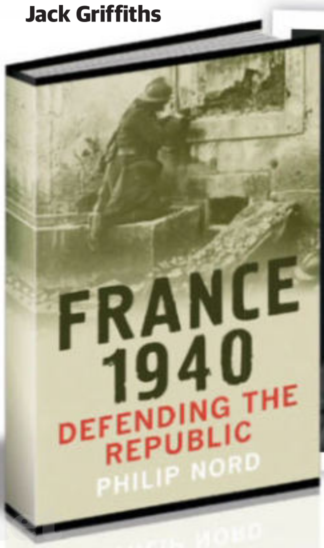
Author Philip Nord **Publisher** Yale University Press **Price** £18.99 **Released** Out now

France's downfall has been shrouded in uncertainty since 1940 and many historians have tried to understand just why the western power capitulated so rapidly. The latest to take on the task is Philip Nord, who has written an accessible and fascinating read. Separated into three sections, Nord provides an excellent account of Hitler's advance through the Ardennes and the tragic failure of the Maginot Line.

The book is lively and engaging as it crams everything into its 166-page length. Damning and sympathetic in equal measure, Nord explores the commonly held notion of a French unwillingness to fight, but also points the finger at its supposed 'allies' who hesitated to help, or hastily agreed terms with Hitler. France, bound by its geographical location, was left on its own and forced to face the Blitzkrieg head on. After the pre-war politics are dealt with, *France 1940*'s centre chapters are the highlight of the book, describing the devastating Wehrmacht Blitzkrieg vividly, but also explaining how the French divisions could have repelled it. Nord even harks back to the 19th century, explaining that problems in the French military had been rife since the Dreyfus affair and the military hierarchy was in no position to outthink the likes of Erwin Rommel. The book's conclusion is just as fascinating, looking into why French politicians sided with the Third Reich and Charles de Gaulle's efforts to launch operations from London.

France 1940 is an excellent release that explains the defeat of France in an accessible yet detailed way. The short, punchy chapters maintain an excellent pace throughout and it appeals to both casual lovers of history and long-time students of World War II.

Jack Griffiths



In 1940, Charles de Gaulle was the leader of the French gorvement-in-exile

WAR HORSE

A triumph of literary adaptation

Author Michael Morpurgo & Nick Stafford **Production** National Theatre

War Horse features life-size horse puppets by the Handspring Puppet Company

Now in its eighth year, the National Theatre's production of *War Horse* has been watched by more than six million people worldwide and is one of the most critically acclaimed plays to have graced our stages. Based on the novel by Michael Morpurgo, *War Horse* follows the story of Joey - a colt who forms a deep and mutual bond with a boy named Albert. When World War I breaks out, Joey is sold to the cavalry, much to the devastation of the young boy. Desperate to be reunited, Albert enlists shortly after and embarks on a perilous journey that will take him deep into the battlefields of France. It is a story of love and courage, unique in the way that it conveys the universal suffering of war.

Though certain elements of the narrative have been adapted or omitted for the stage, Nick Stafford's script maintains the backbone of the original story and adapts it in a way that respects and reflects the messages of Morpurgo's novel.

Particularly commendable is how well he has added humour among the tragedy, be it through Albert's mother Rose, compassionately acted by Jayne McKenna, or through the addition of an audacious goose named Barbara. Adrian Sutton's musical score fits harmoniously with the production, and is punctuated with devastatingly beautiful folk songs poignantly performed by award-winning artist Ben Murray.

As for the puppets, it's easy to forget that they are not living, breathing animals. The craftsmanship is simply ingenious, and the puppeteers' movements blend so seamlessly with those of the horses that it is almost as if they are one and the same. From a twitch of their ears or a swish of their tail, it is the most minute details that really bring these puppets to life, and they are a truly remarkable display of skill from all involved.

War Horse is a triumph of literary adaption, and one that we are sure will continue to grow in both number and support for years to come.

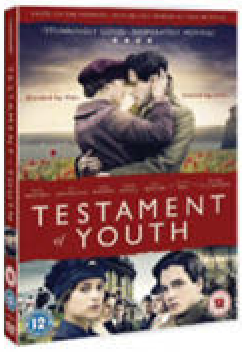
Alicea Francis

DVD

TESTAMENT OF YOUTH

The voice of a generation makes its big screen debut

Director James Kent **Stars** Alicia Vikander, Kit Harington, Emily Watson **Released** 25 May 2015



Based on the hugely influential World War I memoir of the same name, *Testament Of Youth* tells the story of Vera Brittain, a strong-willed and independent young woman who forgoes her dream of studying at Oxford to become a war nurse.

Testament Of Youth is a rather insular tale - it is the story of one woman and one family, but at the same time it speaks for countless women and families. Although events are somewhat rushed through initially, it does a good job of setting up the 'ordinary' life that is destroyed when war crashes into it. There are also several subtle but effective performances, and Alicia Viklander gives a captivating performance in the lead role.

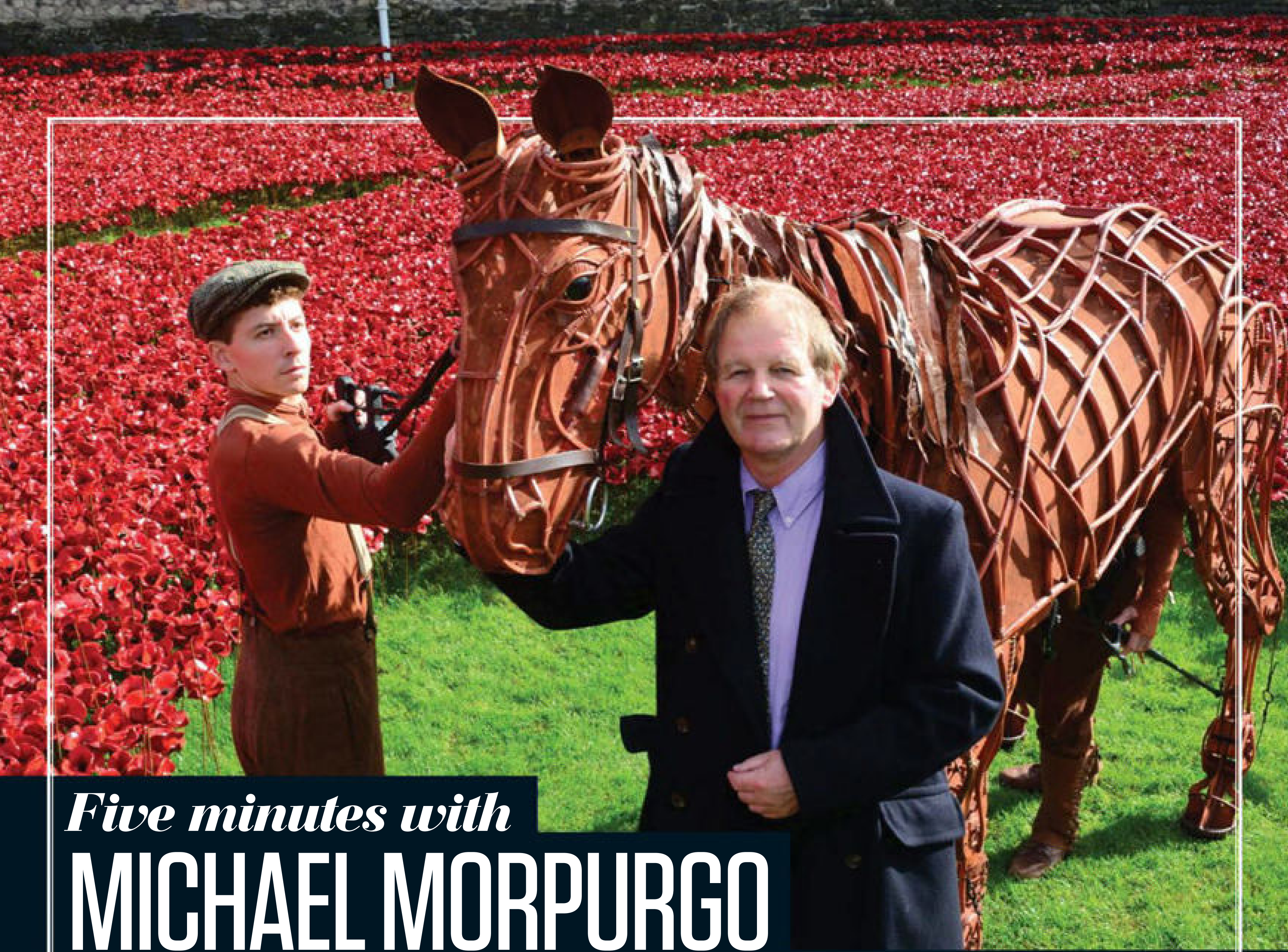
While the film serves as a fitting and touching introduction to anyone interested in finding out more about Brittain, those who have read the memoir may come away feeling underwhelmed. There are some stand-out scenes that come close to capturing the true horrors and futility of the war and the men caught up in it, but this is never quite given the focus it deserves. Like Vera, we are torn away when we come close to experiencing the true pain and anger of such horrific events. There seems to be a battle within the film itself between the beautiful photography, costumes and sense of commemoration and the agony and misery it wishes to portray.

There are some truly moving and emotional scenes - the image of a huge number of stretchers bearing the dead and wounded is a particularly memorable example. However, the film seems to be building up to a crescendo of sadness and pain that doesn't quite come. *Testament Of Youth* is certainly a touching tale, but it just falls short of being as groundbreaking as its source material.

Frances White

Vera Brittain was a nurse with the Voluntary Aid Detachment

© Alamy, Thinkstock



Five minutes with
MICHAEL MORPURGO

THE AUTHOR OF BEST-SELLING NOVEL WAR HORSE, NOW AN AWARD-WINNING PLAY AND ACCLAIMED FILM, TELLS US WHAT INSPIRED HIM AND HOW HE NARRATED THE PITY OF WAR

What inspired you to write *War Horse*?
When I moved to Devon in 1975, I learned there were three men in the village who were veterans of World War I. I just happened to get into a conversation with one of them in the pub, and he told me he'd been there with horses. I later rang the Imperial War Museum and asked if they knew how many British horses went to war, and they said about one million. Then I asked how many came back, and they told me 65,000. The horse was used on all fronts, whether to pull guns or for cavalry charges, so it would probably be between ten and 15 million horses that died in the war – about the same as the number of men. The more I thought about it, the more I realised that man and horse had fought this war side by side. That seemed to me to be the first step, to learn they had done this thing together, and therefore it was worth pursuing the story of a horse going to the war.

Why did you decide to write the novel from the horse's point of view?
I knew that this horse had to be at the centre of the story, otherwise I would just be writing another story about war from one side, but I couldn't convince myself to write in the first person. That all changed when one night I went into our yard and saw a boy stood there talking to one of our horses. He was one of the children staying on our farm as part of a charity that my wife and I set up called Farms For City Children. I was just about to shout to him to go in, when I realised who it was. It was a rather strange little boy who had been described to me by the teacher as having a terrible stutter – or at least they'd been told he did, as at the school he had never actually spoken. But here he was talking to this horse, not stammering, talking 19 to the dozen telling him what he'd done that day on the farm. As he was doing it, I noticed that the horse was listening – her whole body language told me that she understood not his words, but that it was important to be there for him. That was what convinced me that I could write this story of *War Horse* in the first person.

The characters in the novel are deeply complex, but there aren't any real 'villains'. What is the reason for this?
There is only one bad character in this book, and that's the war. That's what hurts people, kills people, splits people up. I genuinely believe that there is great goodness in every one of us – it may be perverted or corrupted or ripped out of us, but that goodness is there. And war very often damages that. So war is the villain, and I think that is why it has worked so well on stage. This show has blown people away all over the world not because it is about World War I, but because it is about love between people, and everyone is touched by that, and everyone can see the 'pity of war', as Wilfred Owen once put it.

***War Horse* is now playing at the New London Theatre. For further information and tickets, visit www.warhorseonstage.com.**

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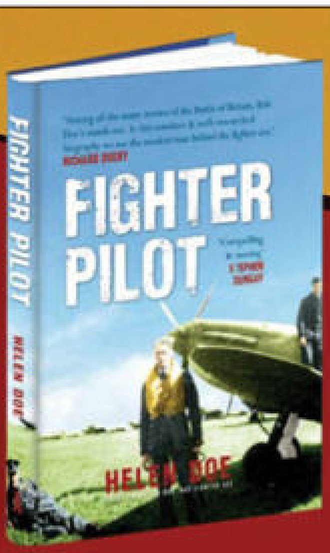

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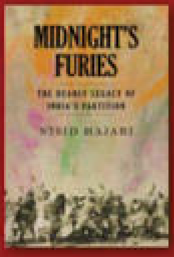

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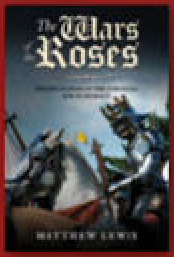

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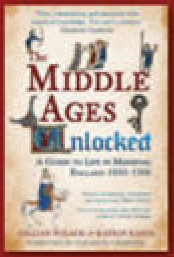

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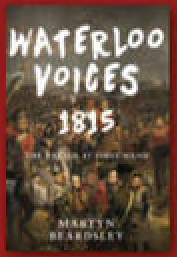

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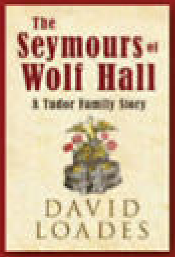

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MAGNA CARTA
THROUGH THE AGES

A Free Exhibition by the Society of Antiquaries of London
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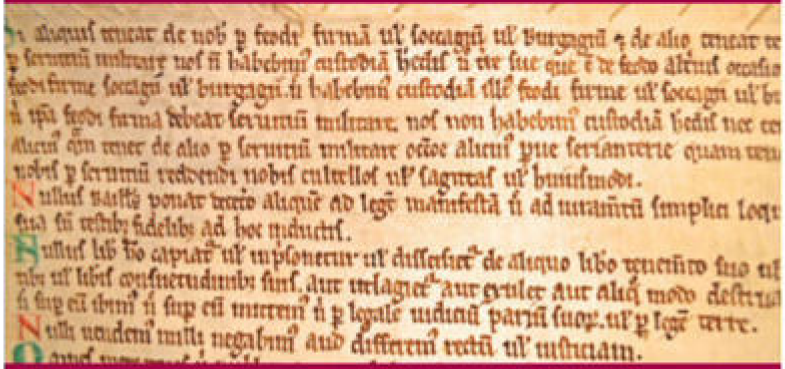

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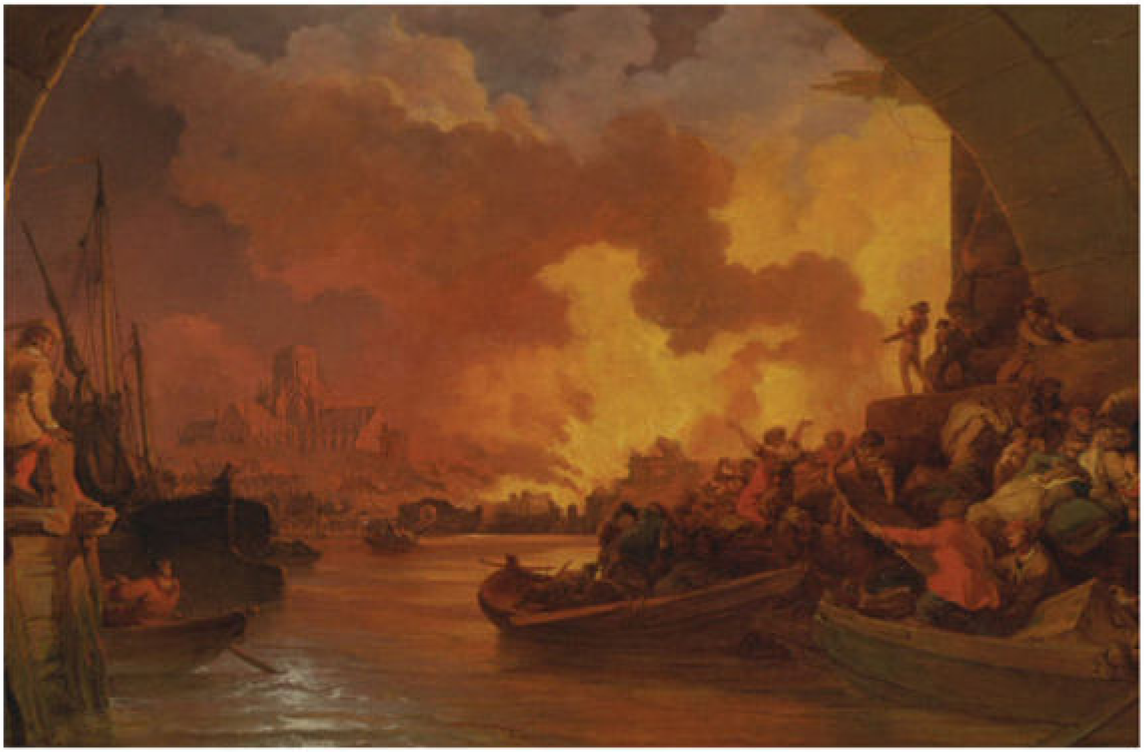

The fire cost the city £10 million in damages, when the annual income of the city was only £12,000

How much of London was destroyed in the Great Fire?

Will Mckay, Warrington

Everybody knows the story of a fire in Pudding Lane, but many do not know the true extent of the carnage caused by the blaze. Figures suggest that 176 hectares (436 acres) of land were destroyed, with 150 hectares (73 acres) of those inside the city walls themselves. This made up an astonishing 80 per cent of the city.

With no fire brigade to stem the flames, it was left to Londoners and soldiers to pour buckets of water onto the inferno. This was clearly not enough to stop the flames and 13,200 houses were destroyed on 400 of the city's streets. 90 churches were lost in the blaze and 100,000 people were made homeless, which was a sixth of the city's inhabitants.

Some iconic buildings were reduced to rubble, including the offices of the lord mayor, the Royal Exchange and the original St Paul's Cathedral. Remarkably, fewer than ten people were recorded as dying, but don't be fooled by the statistics - the death toll was much higher, the data just wasn't recorded.

In the rebuilding operation, 51 churches and 9,000 houses were put back up with new wider streets to prevent the fire ever happening again. Unfortunately, it did ten years later, but that's a different story...

Who is/was history's longest-serving dictator?

John Lockwood, Washington DC

The term 'dictator' can mean a variety of titles ranging from military generals to supreme leaders. Fidel Castro is one man who has been given this title, having had a 52-year premiership over Cuba since the Cuban Revolution. However, some do not see him as a 'dictator' as such, so Kim Il-sung of North Korea could well take the crown after his 45-year tenure, and he is still known as the 'Eternal President of the Republic' even in death. The longest-serving dictator still in power today is Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea, who has been in power some 36 years.

Going back to the ancient era, emperors such as Augustus of the Roman Empire are near the top of the dictator table

This day in history 28 May

621

Battle of Hulao

This conflict, fought on a mountain pass, is a decisive victory for the soon-to-be-ruling Tang Dynasty, who defeat their numerically superior rivals with a devastating cavalry charge.

1533

Henry 'marries' Anne

The Archbishop of Canterbury declares the marriage of the king and his second wife valid. The marriage breaks Henry's bonds with the Catholic Church and Anne will later gave birth to future queen, Elizabeth I.

1588

Spanish Armada sets sail

The fleet known as the Spanish Armada leaves the port of Lisbon with 130 ships and 30,000 men to overthrow the Protestant monarchy of England. The Armada arrives two months later and the beacons are lit.

1871

Fall of the Paris Commune

A national government had ruled France for nearly three months after the country's defeat in the Franco-German War. It falls on this date, as 20,000 revolutionaries are killed in revenge.

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C. Aardvarks Against Nepotistic Standards

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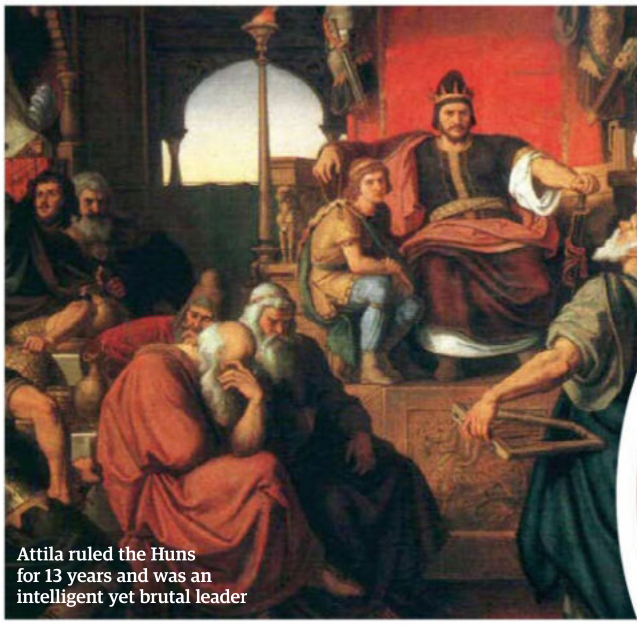
Who was Attila the Hun?

Ed Powell, Stoke

The Hunnic Empire was one of the largest empires in Antiquity and its most famous ruler was Attila. The Hunnic hordes continually assaulted the eastern portion of the Roman Empire as they dominated Eastern Europe and parts of Asia in the 4th century. Attila was known as a man who desired wealth above all and his advances westward were often for riches rather than conquest. He was so powerful that even Rome asked for peace with the Huns.


Attila ruled the Huns for 13 years and was an intelligent yet brutal leader

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1905

Battle of Tsushima
This conflict marks the end of the Russian navy's participation in the Russo-Japanese War. Led by Admiral Togo, the Japanese sink 21 Russian ships, killing 4,380 seamen. Russia has no option but to sue for peace.

1940

Belgium surrenders
After only 18 days of war, Belgium falls to the Nazi Blitzkrieg. King Leopold orders the surrender as the government flees to Paris. The Germans now begin to head south as the Battle for France begins.

1958

Cuban Revolution
Fidel Castro's 26th of July Movement reaches a head as it overwhelms forces loyal to the Republic of Cuba in El Uvero. Castro's forces are heavily reinforced by militia led by Frank Pais.

1991

Ice on Mars
NASA's Mars Odyssey locates vast quantities of water on the Red Planet. Found underground near the planet's south pole, the craft used gamma rays to detect subterranean hydrogen stores.

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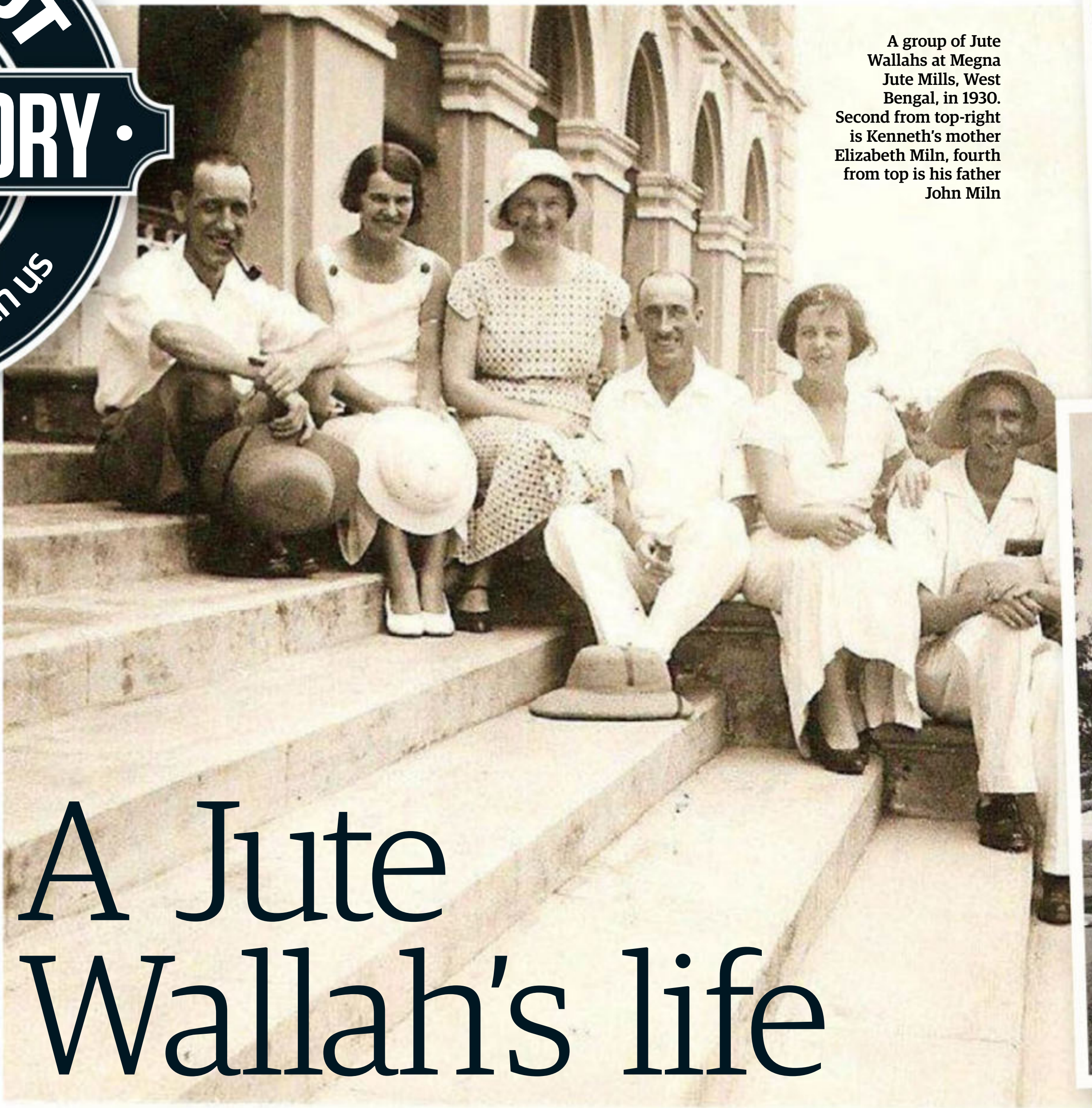
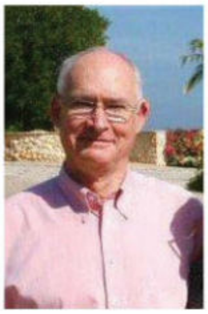
A Jute Wallah's life



A group of Jute Wallahs at Megna Jute Mills, West Bengal, in 1930. Second from top-right is Kenneth's mother Elizabeth Miln, fourth from top is his father John Miln



Kenneth Miln

I am a retired Jute Wallah. These were mainly folks from Dundee who, having gained some experience in mills, chose to leave their native land for greener pastures in India, where large new mills were under construction. This movement of skilled workers and processing expertise from Dundee to India took place from the mid-1800s through to the 1950s, by which time the last Jute Wallahs were leaving India. For many of those who left the promise of higher remuneration and a more comfortable lifestyle was the draw, for others it was travel and adventure.

As a boy, Megna mills compound in Calcutta (now Kolkata) was my home for 12 years. Our compound was (and still remains) located on the east bank of the river Hooghly about 20 miles north of Calcutta, which was Bengal's premier city and port, ideally suited for the export of manufactured Jute products to worldwide markets. We lived in part of a large bungalow on the mill compound, separated from the noisy mill by a series of well-laid-out gardens, tennis courts, a bowling green and a play park for Jute Wallah children. Beyond these amenities lay the extensive mill buildings including the engine house and boiler house. With Megna's mills operating round the clock, the native total labour force amounted to more than 4,000. European (Scottish) expatriate overseers and management staff (Jute Wallahs) numbered about 14.

Within the mills there was strict adherence to hierarchy, with native staff at the lowest levels. Up to the late 1950s there was basically no fraternising between European expatriate staff and locally appointed staff.

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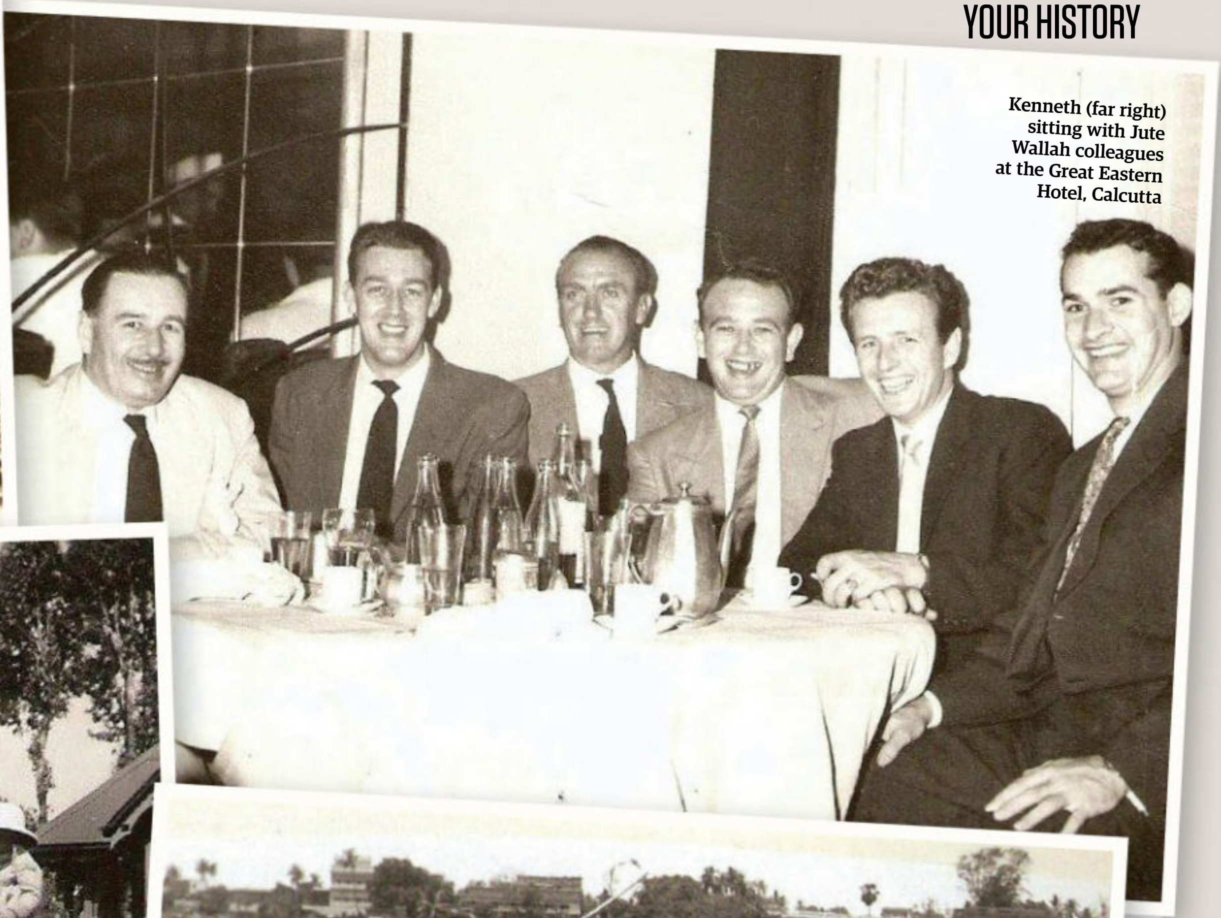
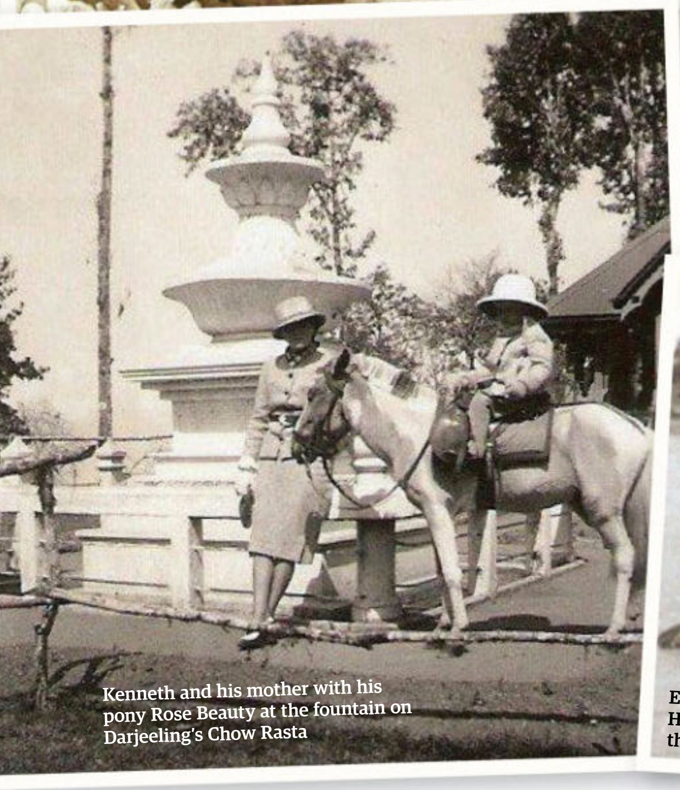
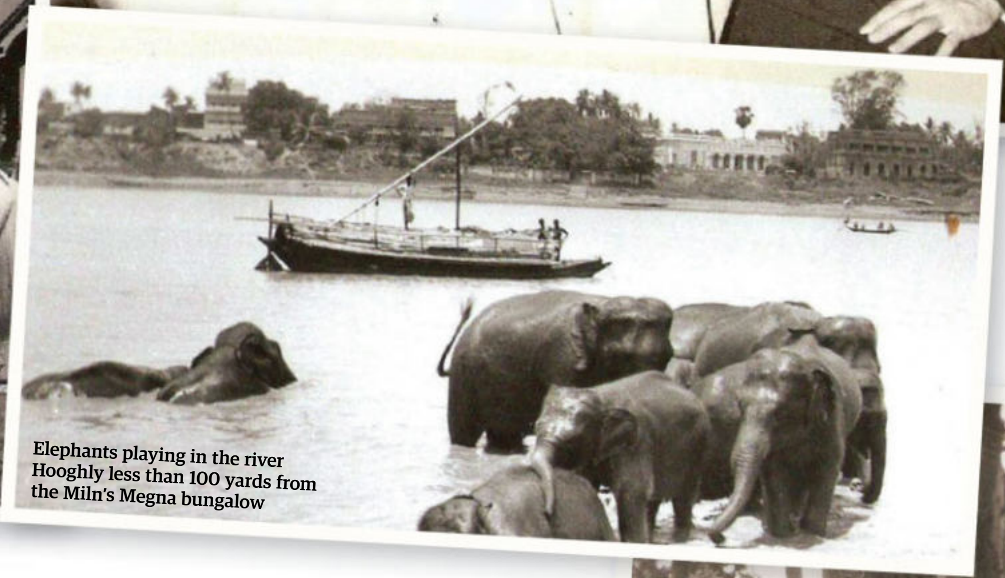


Kenneth (far right) sitting with Jute Wallah colleagues at the Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta



Kenneth and his mother with his pony Rose Beauty at the fountain on Darjeeling's Chow Rasta



Elephants playing in the river Hooghly less than 100 yards from the Miln's Megna bungalow

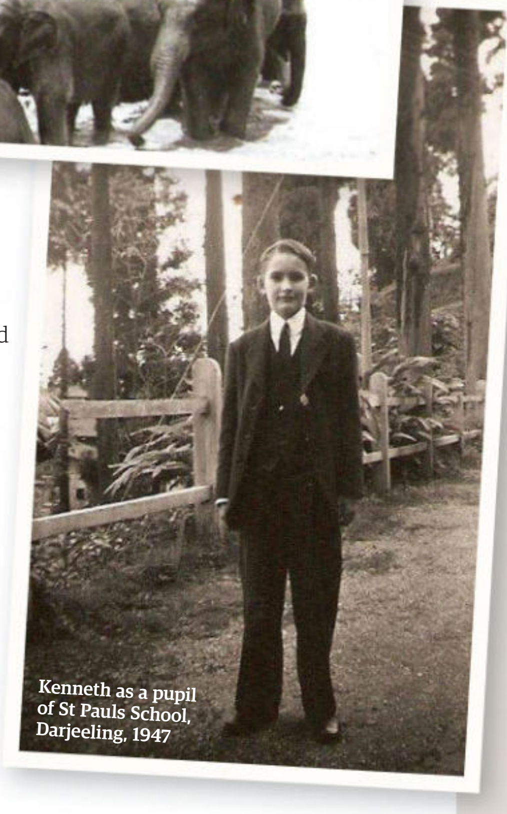
It was almost unknown for Europeans to invite Indian colleagues to their compound bungalows, a most unfortunate state of affairs that may have contributed to ill feelings, especially during the lead up to Partition.

Jute Wallah's would also employ domestic servants. If they had a family then they would usually employ between four to seven servants, which would include a butler, cook, sweeper, childminder, gardener and a young boy to send to the bazaar.

The compound gardens were full of exotic plants and colourful flowers including Cannas, Frangipani, Hibiscus and Poinsettia. There were wonderfully coloured birds, butterflies and dragonflies, as well as snakes - fortunately most were of the non-poisonous variety. There were also well-tended vegetable plots. Most compounds were virtually self contained. Items such as meat, chicken, fish, rice and flour were purchased from nearby bazaars.

Our favourite leisure activity was to go to the nearest club, which most Wallahs were drawn to at weekends. Most clubs were very well equipped and comfortably furnished with a swimming pool, billiard table, cinema hall and, of course, the all important bar. Inter-compound tennis matches were held regularly and were an excuse for big Tamashas (noisy and boozy parties) - usually ending up with a sing-song and a number of inebriated Wallahs jumping into the mill reservoir. All good fun until the next day, normally a Sunday.

During the war years most Wallahs would tune in (on their valve-type radios) to BBC news bulletins for the latest information concerning the war in Europe - and the Japanese advance through Burma towards India. Although there was nothing like the dangers faced by folks in Britain, there were times when Japanese bombers flew overhead looking for West Bengal's major power station.



Kenneth as a pupil of St Pauls School, Darjeeling, 1947

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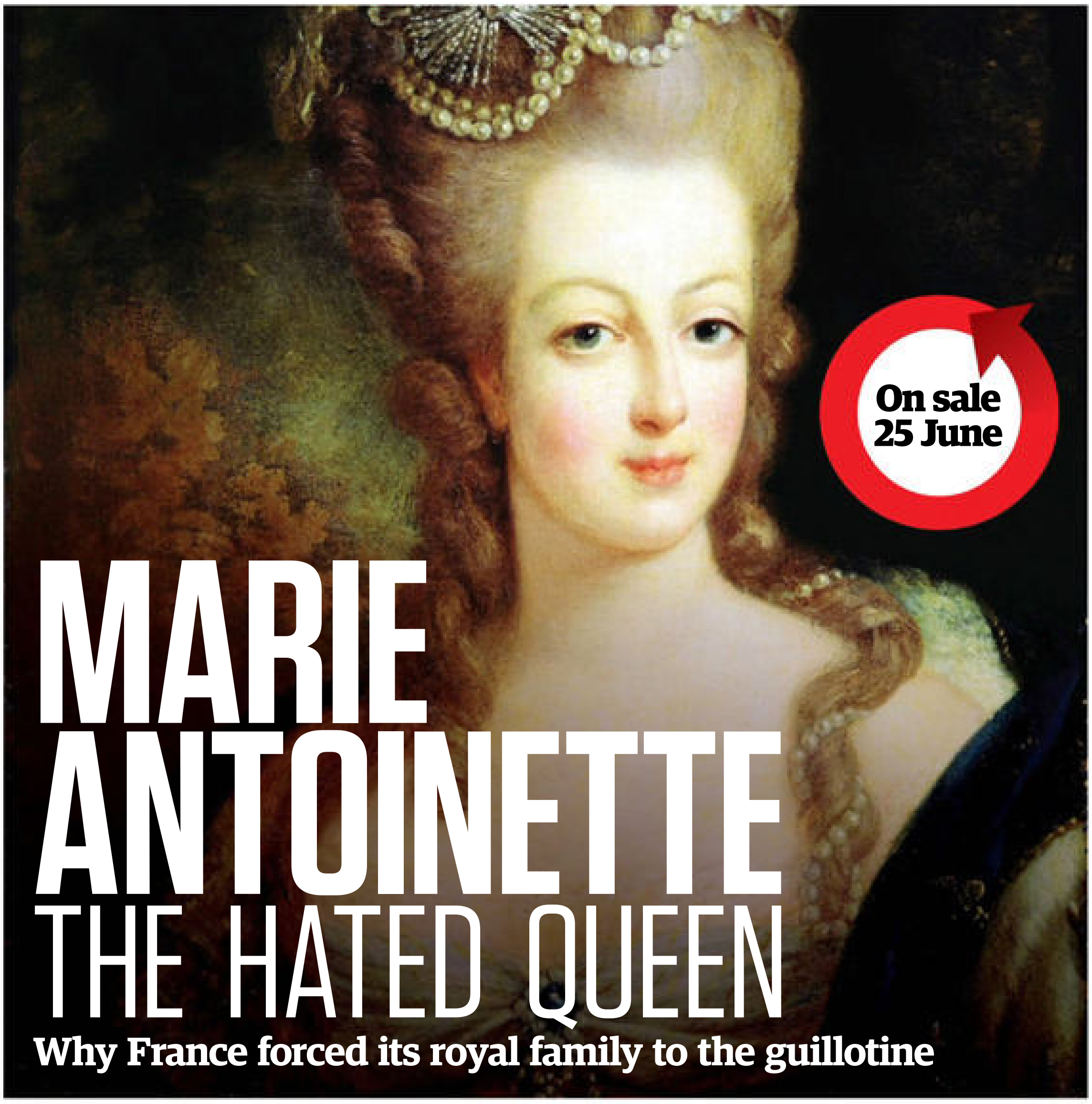

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HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

GORILLAS IN THE MIST

C+

Director: Michael Apted **Starring:** Sigourney Weaver, Bryan Brown, Julie Harris **Country:** USA **Released:** 1988

Is accuracy endangered in this account of Dian Fossey's life?

VERDICT Lots of dramatisation but keeps the core of the story intact

WHAT THEY GOT WRONG...

01 In the film, Fossey is shown trying to persuade Leakey to send her to Africa, but in reality it was the other way around. They had met previously and Leakey contacted Fossey to ask her to take the job. She was reluctant as she lacked experience, but then agreed.

02 The famous gorilla named Digit was beloved by Fossey, as shown in the film. However, unlike in the movie, it was not Digit who first reached out to clasp her hand. It was a young gorilla named Peanut. However, Digit did put his arm around her a few times.

03 Much of the movie is dedicated to a love affair between Fossey and Bob Campbell, a lot of which is fictional. Campbell did not invite her home with him and he never promised to divorce his wife for her. However, their relationship did last for many years.

04 One of the main issues many people have with the movie is the representation of Fossey. She is portrayed as an eccentric, somewhat obsessive character, but in reality Fossey was actually struggling with mental instability and was anything but ordinary.

WHAT THEY GOT RIGHT...

The core of the movie as Fossey would have wanted it, the gorillas, is accurate. All the pivotal moments with the creatures recorded by Fossey in the book of the same name are recreated authentically. An important thing to bear in mind is that Fossey altered the truth somewhat in her book to fit the picture she wished to create.

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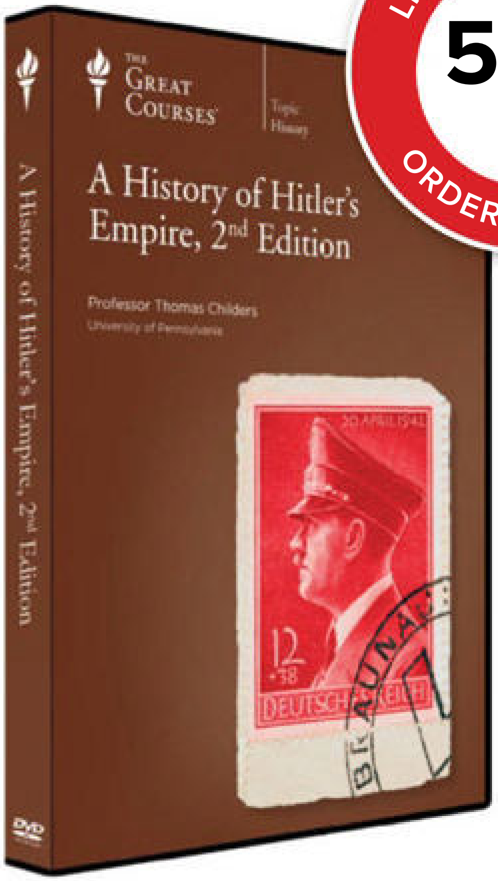
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